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Engraved by L. C. Larada from a drawing by G. Shepard for the Smithsonian Library

Wantage, Bank.

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THE
Antiquarian Itinerary,

COMPRISING SPECIMENS OF

ARCHITECTURE,

MONASTIC, CASTELLATED, AND DOMESTIC;

With other Vestiges of

ANTIQUITY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

ACCOMPANIED WITH DESCRIPTIONS.

VOL. IV.

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WANTAGE,

BERKSHIRE.

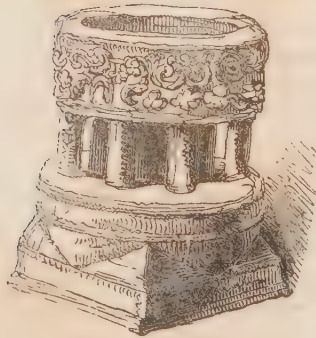
THIS market town, rendered famous as being the birth-place of our good and great king Alfred, is seated on the skirts of the prolific vale of White Horse, and there is no doubt of its having once been a Roman station. In its neighbourhood the remains of various eras are still to be traced—Roman works demolished to make room for Saxon, and these again destroyed that the devices of more modern times might be executed.

The vallum of the Roman station in Wantage was plainly to be traced in the early part of the last century, inclosing a space on the south side of the brook, called the *High Garden*. A hollow way into the town from Farrington, Grove-street, a morass, and a river, from the sides of an oblong square, containing about six acres of ground. On this very spot, says the antiquary of Wantage, Mr. Wise, “stood the Saxon palace where king Alfred was born.” In an enclosure, near the brook, Roman coins and other vestiges have been frequently found, and not far from the river the remains of a building, called king Alfred’s cellar, were discovered, which was paved with Roman brick, and had all the appearance of having formerly been a bath.

Wantage is supposed to have been a place of some conse-

WANTAGE, BERKSHIRE.

quence in the Saxon times ; it was undoubtedly a royal seat, and appears, together with the surrounding country, to have been the patrimony of the West Saxon kings. By the will of Alfred, it was bequeathed to his cousin Alfrith, and was first made a market town about 150 years after the Conquest, through the interest of Fulk Fitz-warine, on whom it was bestowed by Roger Bigod, earl marshal of England, as a reward for military services. Its present population is upwards of 2000.





7. *Inden die Tropen, 1891-1892* 77. *Taschen Rechner* 8



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THE city of Ely is situated on a considerable eminence in the Isle of Ely, which, strictly speaking, is that large tract of high land encompassed with fens that were formerly overflowed with water, of which Ely is the principal place, and gives name to the whole, in which are included also, the villages of Stretham and Thetford, Wilburton, Hadenham, Sutton, Mepal, Witcham, Wentforth, Whichford, Downham, and Chetisham, making collectively but one island. Littleport, Coveny, and Stuntney, though sometimes reckoned part of it, were, in their original state, disjoined by small intervals of fenny ground, and therefore were distinct islands of themselves. This tract is about seven miles in length, and four

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in breadth. But the whole district now called the Isle of Ely, extends from the bridge at Tyd on the north, to Upwere on the south, twenty-eight miles in length ; and from Abbot's or Bishop's Delf on the east, to the river Nene, near Peterborough, on the west, twenty-five miles in breadth. This district, besides the places above-mentioned, includes several considerable towns and villages, as Wisbech, Whittlesey, Dodington, March, Leverington, Newton, Chatteris, &c. This island was denominated by the Saxons, *Suth Gurwa* ; but, according to Bede, obtained the name of *Elge*, or *Elig*, from the abundance of eels produced in the fens and waters that encompassed it. Other writers have derived the appellation of this district from the British word *Hclig*, signifying *willows*, which grew on the isle in great quantities.

The original settlement appears to have been about a mile from the present city, at a place called *Cratendune*, now called Cratendon-field, where, soon after the introduction of Christianity into the kingdom of East Anglia, Ethelbert, the principal Saxon king, founded a church, through the persuasions of Augustine, archbishop of Canterbury ; but the ministers whom he had placed there to perform the divine ordinances, were driven away by Penda, king of Mercia, and the place reduced to a desert. The next attempt, which arose from the piety of Etheldreda, daughter of Anna, king of East Anglia, and Hereswitha, his queen, proved more successful.

Etheldreda was born about the year 630, at Exning, in Suffolk. At a very early period she resolved to devote herself to the service of God, and formed the design of retaining her virginity, which in that age was regarded as essential to



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Christian perfection. This she accomplished under the operation of many difficulties, for she was twice married : once by the authority of her parents ; and a second time through the influence of her uncle Ethelwold, then king of East Anglia.

Tonbert, her first husband, was a principal nobleman among the East Angles, being one of those *Eoldermen*, or princes, afterwards called *Eorles* and *Comites*, who in the Saxon times held one or more districts hereditarily, and in fee, or by royal grant ; and with the bishops composed the supreme council of the nation. Having prevailed on him to refrain from the consummation of the marriage rites, they lived together three years, when Tonbert died, and Etheldreda came into full possession of the Isle of Ely, which had been settled on her in dower.

The temporal jurisdiction which the bishop of this see now possesses, is partly the same as Tonbert was invested with, and which, on his death, descended to Etheldreda. This lady intrusted its management to Ovin, who was called “the upper *Eolderman* of her household ;” and went herself into retirement, intending to pass the remainder of her days in acts of devotion, accompanied by a few particular friends, whom she had chosen for their religious qualifications. Having continued a considerable time in solitude, her hand was again solicited by prince Egfrid, son of Oswy, king of Northumberland, whom she at length married ; but according to the narrations of Bede, and other historians, lived with him twelve years without conceding her virginity, which she appears to have guarded by a private agreement made with the prince before marriage.

On the death of Oswy, in the year 670, Egfrid succeeded

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to the throne ; but royalty had no influence over the mind of Etheldreda, who preferred cloistered seclusion to courtly splendor. Her ideas of religious duties continuing the same, she requested her husband's permission to leave the court, and retire to some monastery, where she might have more leisure to attend the duties of devotion. Wearied with her importunity, he gave consent ; and she entered and received the sacred veil in the monastery of Coldingham ; but Egfrid's esteem for her increasing, he resolved, as persuasions were ineffectual, to remove her by force. Etheldreda obtaining a knowledge of this design, left her retirement, and fled to the Isle of Ely. The king pursued, and, according to the monkish legends overtook her near a rocky eminence, whither the queen sought refuge, and was suddenly surrounded by water, which continued to encompass her for several days. Egfrid believing this to be an interposition of heaven in her favour, retired to York, and permitted her to pursue her journey.

When Etheldreda arrived in the isle, she at first designed to repair the old church of Ethelbert's foundation, and erect a monastery near it ; but the spot on which Ely is now situated being closer to the river, and more pleasant, she altered her determination, and began the buildings near the site of the present cathedral, about the year 673, and in a little time assembled a numerous congregation of religious persons. Her establishment was not of any particular order ; but the strictness of their manner of life may be estimated from the conduct of Etheldreda, when she became abbess, which is thus described by Bede :—" From her first entrance on her office, she never wore any linen, but only woollen garments. She usually ate only twice a day, except on the



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greater festivals, or in times of sickness: and if her health permitted, she never returned to bed after matins, which were held at midnight, but continued her prayers in the church till break of day."—The high opinion entertained of her sanctity, induced several dignified persons to become her converts, and live under her direction, particularly her eldest sister, Sexburga, queen of Kent; Ermenilda, her daughter, queen of Mercia; and her daughter, the princess Werburga; who all succeeded to the government of the monastery, and with Etheldreda, were for many centuries regarded as saints.

The maintenance of the society was defrayed by the profits arising from the government of the Isle of Ely, which was settled on the monastery by the royal foundress, and confirmed with all its immunities and privileges by the pope. On the death of Etheldreda, she was placed in a wooden coffin, and, by her express order, buried in the common cemetery of the nuns; but her body was removed sixteen years afterwards into the church, and deposited in an elegant marble coffin, which the monks had found near the walls of the ruined city of *Grantaceaster*. This translation was made on the seventeenth of October, 695, which day was afterwards deemed a festival, and still retains a place in our calendar. When the body was removed, the flesh was sound, and free from corruption. Various miracles were attributed to her wooden coffin, and the clothes in which she had been interred; and a spring, famous for its healing qualities, was said to have burst forth from the spot where she had first been buried.

Werburga was the last abbess whose name has descended to us, though the monastery continued under the order and

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discipline established by St. Etheldreda for 197 years; and its inmates remained in peace and security till about the year 870, when this place of retirement was discovered by the Danes, who invaded the isle, and, though at first repulsed by the bravery of the inhabitants, returned in great numbers, and overcame every defensive effort. The Danes marched immediately to the monastery, put the religious to the sword, set fire to the church and other buildings, and departed loaded with the spoil, not only of the town and monastery, but also of all the neighbouring places, whose inhabitants had deposited their valuables at Ely for better security.

Beorhed, king of Mercia, who had levied an army to pursue the Danes annexed the jurisdiction of the isle, and the revenues of the monastery to the crown, which retained them till the reign of Edgar, who intimated an intention of restoring the ancient monastery to Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester. The prelate having provided monks, and ejected some seculars who had repaired the aisles of the church, and recommenced divine worship, agreed with the king for the surrender of the whole district of the Isle of Ely. The charter granted by Edgar, is dated at *Wlfamere*, in the year 970. It provides for the surrender of the isle, with all its appurtenances, privileges, power to try causes, &c. in consideration of sixty hides of land, and 100*l.* in money, and a crucifix of gold, to be given to the king.

The first abbot of the restored monastery was Brithnoth, who was appointed by Edgar, and exerted himself to complete the repairs of the church, which, when finished, was dedicated, by the celebrated archbishop Dunstan, to St. Peter and the Virgin Mary. The abbot was assisted in the busi-



The Prior's Entrance, Ely Cathedral

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ness of his office by Leo, a monk, who greatly contributed to the security of the possessions of the monastery, by procuring a meeting of the principal inhabitants of the isle, and the adjoining counties, in which the rights of the society were ascertained, and the boundaries of their estates discussed, and settled to the satisfaction of the whole assembly. On this occasion, a deep ditch was made through the fens, and called Abbot's or Bishop's Delf, as a memorial and boundary between the respective possessions. The ditch that crosses the road from Stuntney to Soham, having a bridge over it, called Delf Bridge, (rebuilt by the dean and chapter in 1765) is the utmost boundary of the Isle of Ely on that side, and is, without doubt, the same that was called Bishop's Delf. The property of the church was much augmented by the large purchases of land made by the abbot, who is said to have been slain by the orders of queen Elfrida, whose servants heated sharp-pointed irons in the fire, and thrust them into his body beneath his arm-pits. This murder continued undiscovered till the contrition of Elfrida for the assassination of Edward, her son-in-law, induced her to confess it with her other crimes.

From this period till the time of the Conquest, the abbey continued to flourish greatly, its possessions being increased by the gifts of many benefactors, but particularly by Leofwin, a Saxon nobleman, who rebuilt and enlarged the south side of the church; and duke Brithnoth, who was killed by the Danes at Malden, in Essex, and buried in the choir at Ely. The privileges of the monastery were confirmed by king Canute, and again by Edward the Confessor, who received the early part of his education here, and granted the abbot a new

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charter, which enumerated all the possessions, rights, and privileges of the church, and was confirmed by pope Victor the Second.

During the confusions occasioned by the Norman Invasion, the abbey was deprived of many estates; and Thurstan, the seventh abbot, being fearful that its whole possessions would be seized by the Conqueror, resolved to support the interest of Edgar Etheling, whom he considered as the real heir to the crown, and gave assistance and shelter to several English lords, that were determined to defend their country from the domination of one whom they regarded as an usurper. The natural strength of the Isle of Ely was supposed capable of resisting the progress of William's army; and, among other noblemen, Edwin, earl of Chester; Morcar, earl of Northumberland; and Hereward, son of Leofric, lord of Brunne, in Lincolnshire, sought refuge in it, while insurrections were raising in different quarters of the kingdom. Hereward was elected general, and exerted his military talents in the necessary measures to defend the isle from the expected attack of the Normans, who invested it in the summer of 1069.

William commanded the assailants in person, and attempted to force a passage on the western side, by forming a causeway over the fens, of straw, wood, and bags of earth; but the work was obstructed by Hereward in several successful sallies. Some disturbances in the north of England breaking out about the same period, the king was obliged to raise the siege, to which, however, he returned in the spring of the year 1070, and encamped on a spot opposite to Aldrey, where a neck of firm land, stretching into the fen, rendered the passage into the isle narrower than in any other part. From



View of the entrance to the church of St. John, New Bond, street

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this spot he carried on the work ; but the water having, by its weight, destroyed a dam which he had formed across the river, he retired to Brandon, on the eastern side of the isle, where, in a council of war, it was resolved to renew the attack from the same point. Hereward, who had attended the council in disguise, returned in the habit of a fisherman, and set fire to the magazines of straw and timber which William's troops had collected, and taking advantage of the confusion, made a successful sally with his boats, and destroyed the forts which his enemies had erected.

The camp that was occupied by the conqueror's army when he besieged the isle of Ely, is still visible at the south end of Aldrey-Causey, within the manor of Wivelingham, and is corruptly called *Belsars Hills*.—"That this camp received its name from Belasius, or Belasis, one of the Conqueror's generals in this expedition, is evident from a manuscript now in the British Museum, entitled, *Story found in the Isle of Ely*, in which are these words: "We endured the violent threats of the Normans seven years together, untill such tyme as Belasyus, generall of the Kyng's army in thys service, of whom certain Hylls, which at the south end of Aldreth Causey were built for the safety of the Armyes, took their names, which we now by corrupt speech call Belsars Hilles, &c."

The king, inflamed with resentment, proceeded to Cambridge, where he alienated all the estates and manors of the monastery, situate without the isle, to his Norman followers. This was the surest mode of extorting the submission of the monks; but as the English officers fed at their tables, with their arms in constant readiness for use, they dared not offer

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to make terms with the king, till they were in some distress for provisions; but even then their persuasions were ineffectual; for their guests could not be prevailed on to agree to their designs. Wishing, however, to make their own peace with the sovereign, the abbot, with several of his monks, left Ely privately, and went to William at Warwick, where they implored his pardon; and the abbot, in a secret interview, having informed the king of the best measures for reducing the isle, and promised to use his greatest exertions to compel its defenders to obedience, returned with his followers to Ely.

In the ensuing year, the islanders received reinforcements from their friends in Scotland, and the north of England: but William being resolved to crush their rising hopes, marched a large army to re-commence the siege. He then gave orders for the completion of the causeway, which, after several months severe labor, was perfected, and strengthened by forts and military engines. The soldiers were now ordered to proceed, but soon found their march impeded by some deep waters, which lay between them and the firm land, and were obliged to drag a number of boats through the fens, in order to make a floating bridge to enable them to continue their progress. The exertions of the besieged increased, and they disputed the passage with much firmness; but the superior skill of the Norman soldiers in the use of their military engines, overpowered resistance, and victory declared for the king. Great numbers of the English were slain in the battle; and many of those who were made prisoners, were cruelly mutilated; some having their eyes put out, and others their hands and feet cut off, that they might remain as living



Engraved by Lloyd from a Drawing by E. T. M. A. in the Antiquarian Library.

North Door of Ely Church.

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monuments of the Conqueror's vengeance, and become a terror to such as presumed to dispute his authority.

The king had no sooner become master of the isle, than he took possession of the monastery; but pardoned the monks through the intercession of Gilbert, earl of Clare, and the promise of payment of seven hundred marks, which on a slight pretence was increased to one thousand. Many of the Norman officers were now quartered on the monastery, and the most valuable furniture of the church seized by the king; but the gold, silver, and jewels, were afterwards restored through the firmness of Theodwin, a monk of Jumiage, in Normandy, whom the Conqueror had appointed to succeed the abbot Thurstan, but who refused to accept the office, unless every article of the above description was given back.

This circumstance was commemorated by an ancient painting on the walls of the great refectory of the monastery, called *Tabula Eliensis*, in which the arms, names, and effigies, of the officers were depicted, together with the monks their companions. This painting appears to have been first mentioned in the "Story of Ely," which Fuller, in his church history, supposes to have been written in the reign of Henry the Seventh. Several engravings of it, from ancient copies, have been published; one of them by Blomefield, from an old parchment roll; another by Fuller, from a transcript on the walls of the dean's dining-room; and a third by Bentham, from an ancient painting now in the episcopal palace at Ely. According to the traditionary tale, which accompanies it, the original painting was depicted on the walls of the refectory to record the mutual satisfaction which existed between the monks and their guests; and the time

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when it was done, is said to be soon after the departure of the latter for Normandy, whither they were sent by the Conqueror, to quell the insurrection excited against him by his son Robert. The Rev. Mr. Cole, in a critical examination of the names, arms, &c. of this painting, published in the appendix to Bentham's *Ely*, imagines it not to have been of such remote origin as is pretended, but confesses it to be "a great curiosity, and valuable piece of antiquity."

On the death of Theodwin, in 1075, the administration of the affairs of the abbey was bestowed on a monk named Godfrey, who retained its entire management for several years, and had sufficient influence with the king, to obtain his permission that the rights and liberties of the monastery should be enquired into, in a great assembly, convened for the purpose at Kentford, a small village in Suffolk, bordering on Cambridgeshire. The proceedings of this meeting being certified to the king by his barons, he issued a precept, in conformity with its decision, to the sheriffs of the several counties interested, directing them to put the church of Ely in possession of all the rights, customs, and privileges, it enjoyed at king Edward's death. In the year 1081, Godfrey was removed to Malmsbury, and Simeon, brother to Walkolin, bishop of Winchester, appointed to the abbacy of Ely. This prelate, soon after his promotion, laid the foundation of the magnificent conventual church, which has been justly characterized as one of the most curious monuments of ecclesiastical antiquity in the kingdom: he spared no exertions, of which his age was capable, to carry it on with vigor; but, partly from insufficient funds, and partly from the neglect of those to whom his infirmities had obliged him to entrust it.



J. C. Smith del.

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execution, it remained unfinished at the time of his decease, which happened in 1093, when he had completed his 100th year. Richard, his successor, prosecuted the building with diligence; and the eastern side being finished in the year 1106, the bodies and shrines of the saints Etheldreda, Sexburga, Ermenilda, and Werburga, were removed from the old church, and deposited in the new structure before the altar. The annual revenues of the abbey, about this period, amounted to 1400*l*.

Richard, who was the last abbot, solicited Henry the First to establish a bishopric here; but though his importunities were very urgent, the design was not effected till after his death, in 1107. Hervey, bishop of Bangor, was the first appointed to the new see, which was partly taken from the diocese of Lincoln, whose bishop had the manor of *Spaldwick*, Huntingdonshire, in exchange. Hervey procured many gifts and privileges for his bishopric; and also the grant of a fair, to commence at Ely on the third day preceding the 20th of June, which was the anniversary of the death of Etheldreda, and to continue for seven days. The conduct of this bishop appears in some particulars not to have been consistent with justice; for having obtained the king's mandate to make an *equal* division of the abbey estates between the bishopric and the monks, he contrived to retain a full third of the possessions more than he was entitled to.

When the possessions of the bishopric and monastery were thus separated, the management of the latter devolved on the prior, who was at first chosen by the bishop, but afterwards elected by the monks. This officer had apartments for himself and family distinct from those of the society, and was

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usually styled lord prior. From the year 1413, till the Dissolution, the abbey was considered as a mitred one.

Nigellus, with a view to assist the Empress Matilda, during her contest with king Stephen, erected a castle at Ely, and another at Aldrey; yet he was dispossessed of all his estates and revenues by the king, who suddenly passed the river with his horse, and made himself master of the isle; but being soon afterwards taken prisoner at Lincoln, Nigellus profited by the opportunity, and, with the aid of some forces sent him by the empress, recovered the isle, and was reinstated in his bishopric, which, with a short intermission, he retained till his death, in 1164.

After the surrender of the monastery to Henry the Eighth, that monarch, by his letters patent, dated September the 10th, 1541, granted a charter to convert the conventual church into a cathedral, by the title of the cathedral church of the undivided trinity; the establishment for the performance of divine service to consist of a dean, a priest, and eight prebendaries, with other ministers: the dean and prebendaries, to form a body corporate. Thomas Gooderich, the thirty-second bishop, who at that time held the see, was a zealous promoter of the reformation; and his injunctions to demolish images, shrines, relics, and other superstitious emblems, were executed with so much punctuality, that no trace of them remains within his diocese; though before that period it contained many objects of frequent resort.

In the first parliament of Elizabeth, an act was passed, which empowered the queen to retain any lands belonging to whatever see might become vacant, and to give tenths, and impropriate rectories instead of them. This was a great



The great hall of White tower, London, as it was by the late Mr. Stow.

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disadvantage to the bishopric of Ely, which, under this act, was deprived of manors whose revenues amounted to upwards of 1132*l.* yearly. The bishop possesses all the rights of a county palatine, and is sovereign within the isle, where all causes are heard and determined by a judge of his appointing, who holds assizes, gaol delivery, and quarter sessions; and has proper officers under him to preserve the peace, and execute his decisions.

The cathedral of Ely is the workmanship of very different periods, and displays, a singular admixture of various styles of architecture: yet, notwithstanding the dissimilarity of its parts, when considered as a whole, it must unquestionably be regarded as a very magnificent structure. It is also interesting from furnishing the antiquary with the advantage of obtaining an acquaintance with the modes of building, practised by our ancestors in different ages; and which can best be acquired from a comparative examination.

The north and south transepts are the oldest parts of the cathedral, and were erected in the reigns of William Rufus and Henry the First. Here the arches are circular, as well as in the nave, which was begun about the middle of the reign of the latter monarch, and completed before 1174. Between this period, and the year 1189, bishop Rydal erected the great west tower, which was, anciently flanked on the north side by a building of the same kind as that on the south; but this either fell, or was taken down, and another building began in its place, but never carried higher than twelve or fourteen feet. The interior view of this tower is particularly beautiful, it being decorated with small columns and arches running round in several stories, and lighted by

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twenty-seven windows. The lower part was repaired, and new cased with stone, in the middle of the fifteenth century ; but the beauty of the tower was destroyed in a considerable degree, by the insertion of a belfrey-floor, and various beams irregularly disposed to direct the course of the bell-ropes. This belfrey, with other cumbrous obstructions, has been removed during the present year, through the munificence and taste of the right rev. James Yorke, the present bishop, who has also enabled the dean and chapter to repair the mutilated decorations of the tower, and restore the whole to its original splendor. The handsome *Vestibule* at the entrance, formerly called the *Gallilee*, was built about the year 1200, by bishop Eustachius. This has likewise been repaired ; and the ground in front so much lowered, that, instead of a descent at the entrance of three or four steps, as formerly, there is now an ascent into it of one step.

The foundation of the elegant structure which now forms the choir, but was originally the presbytery, was laid by Hugh Northwold, the eighth bishop, in the year 1234, and finished in 1250. The three most western arches were destroyed by the fall of the lofty stone tower in the night of the 12th of February, 1322. This tower stood in the centre of the building on four arches, which gave way, and precipitated it to the ground. To prevent the recurrence of a like accident, Alan de Walsingham, sub-prior of the convent, and sacrist of the church, a person eminently versed in architecture, designed and erected the present magnificent octagonal tower, which is supported on eight pillars, covered with a dome, and terminated by an elegant lantern. The capitals of the pillars are ornamented with rude historical carvings, which



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represent the principal events in the life of Etheldreda. This octagon is probably unequalled by any other of the kind: the stone-work was completed in six years, and the wood-work raised thereon, and covered with lead, in about fifteen. The whole was perfected in the year 1342, at the expense of 240*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* It is not equilateral. There are four longer, and four shorter sides, alternate, and respectively equal. The longer are to the shorter as ten to six. In fact, it is a square with its corners cut off.

Four lofty arches, in the four longer sides, open into the four principal parts of the church. Alternately with these, in the four shorter sides, are as many more, much lower, (with windows above them) opening obliquely into the aisles, above and below the transept. The arches are all supported by those elegant clustered and conjoined columns, which were then come into use. Their capitals are wreaths of flowers and foliage.

Above the key-stone of each of the high arches, there is, or rather was, a whole-length sitting figure, probably of some saint. Even in their seemingly-inaccessible situation, they were not secure from the merciless chisel and mallet of the intrepid Puritan. With very great pains, doubtless, and no little danger, they have all been hacked and defaced.

The other four sides are more ornamented; but still the ornaments are chaste, and not profuse. The four low arches in them are under canopies resting on good carved heads, which have been suffered to remain perfect. Those on the north-east are said to be intended for Edward the

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Third and his queen Philippa, in whose time the building was erected. It is likely enough that they were so. Heads, closely resembling them, are to be seen in other churches of that age. On the south-east arch, are the heads of a bishop and a priest; perhaps meant for bishop Hotham and prior Crauden. Opposite to this, on the north-west arch, are the heads of another priest, apparently younger, and of some secular person in long hair. Who would not be glad to be convinced, that the former was a resemblance of the admirable architect himself? One would not be so curious about the remaining one, nor altogether unwilling to suppose it the head of the master-mason. On the remaining arch, at the south-west, are two figures which seem to have no relation whatsoever to the rest. One of them is of a beast, and the other a grotesque human figure in a cowl.

A little above these lower arches, are three brackets with canopies. The figures are gone of course, but some ornamental heads remain unhurt. Immediately above these canopies is a sort of embattled ornament, and then a window of four lights, and various tracery above. It is extremely sharp-pointed, the sides of the arch almost rectilinear, in the taste of Edward the Third's reign. Towards the top, each window is faced internally, with a trellis or lattice-work in stone tracery, which adds to the elegance of the window, without intercepting the light. These windows rise exactly to the same height with the higher arches.

Between each two arches, high and low, is a small cluster of very slender columns. On each of these, rather higher



Part of the Abbey Buildings &c.

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than the spring of the lower arches, is represented, in relief, some passage of the life of St. Etheldreda.

The three arches eastward of the octagon were rebuilt about the same period by bishop Hotham, and are very highly embellished. The vaulting is divided into regular compartments by various ribs, which spring from the capitals of the pillars, and are ornamented at the intersections with flowers and elegant foliage, executed with much skill. The arches of the second arcade, and the windows above them, are decorated with graceful and delicate tracery work.

In the spandrils of the first lower arch on the south side are the arms of the see, (gules, three ducal coronets or); and those of bishop Hotham, (barry of ten azure and argent, on a canton or a martlet sable).

Between each two of the lower arches, there is a projection, of the shape of a semi-cone inverted, exuberantly adorned with foliage in high relief. From this rises a column between the upper arches and windows, and from the top of it spring the ribs of the vaulting, which spread in lavish ramifications over it, dividing it into angular compartments, and at the angles are flowers and other ornaments, curiously carved, and originally coloured and gilded.

The mean pulpit, which, till very lately, blemished this part of the cathedral, has been removed to its proper place, a village church. The persevering munificence of the present bishop has substituted for it one of carved English oak, of an octagonal form, on Norman columns and arches, with

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their characteristic mouldings, beautifully and correctly executed under the direction of Mr. Groves, an architect of considerable repute.

The wood-work of the dome and lantern, with part of the roof, was repaired between the years 1757 and 1762, by Mr. James Essex, of Cambridge; and the choir, which was then under the lantern, was also removed, by his direction, to its present situation. This very important improvement greatly contributes to the beauty of the cathedral.

At the two columns which terminate bishop Hotham's work began the semi-circular east end of the original church, extending a very little way further. It was taken down in the year 1235, by the eighth bishop, Hugh de Northwold, and this beautiful addition of six arches was made and finished at his expense, in seventeen years. It was called the presbytery, a common name for the chancel or east end of a church, though now out of general use. In this instance, however, it has been retained to our days. At the dedication of it, and the removal of the reliques and shrines of the holy virgins into it in 1252, Henry the Third and his court were present, and magnificently entertained by the bishop.

It is separated from bishop Hotham's work by two strong piers, in the construction of which there is something remarkable; this may be better viewed in the side aisles. The two styles, which have been denominated the early, and ornamented English, being thus brought together in absolute contact, an opportunity is afforded of judging of the

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comparative merits of each. Mr. Bentham describes the latter as highly embellished, the other as richly ornamented indeed, but still majestically plain and simple. Richly ornamented no doubt it is, and majestic; but it seems not happily, if consistently, characterised by the epithets plain and simple. In positive quantity of ornament, there seems to be a great resemblance. Many of the same respective parts in each are ornamented, yet there is a striking difference in the general result. In the ante-choir, the ornaments, in some places, seem exuberant and redundant; and in others, strong and weak; heavy and light parts seem at variance with each other. In the choir, all is consistent. The ornaments are various indeed, and copious, but all uniformly elegant and graceful. Every thing seems in its proper place, and fitly proportioned; all harmonize, and, taken all together, give a general character of lightness and elegance. This is no where more conspicuous than in the roof, the plain ribs of which, diverging from their imposts, instead of crossing each other and spreading into intricate forms, go strait to a longitudinal mid-line, running from west to east, and decorated with coloured figures or flowers, where the springers meet it. There is a precise line of separation between this and the more elaborate ceiling of bishop Hotham's work. Being thus brought into contact, the two may be compared with singular ease and advantage.

That strength was effectually consulted has been proved by the event. This building has stood but little short of six hundred years; and it does not appear that any more im-

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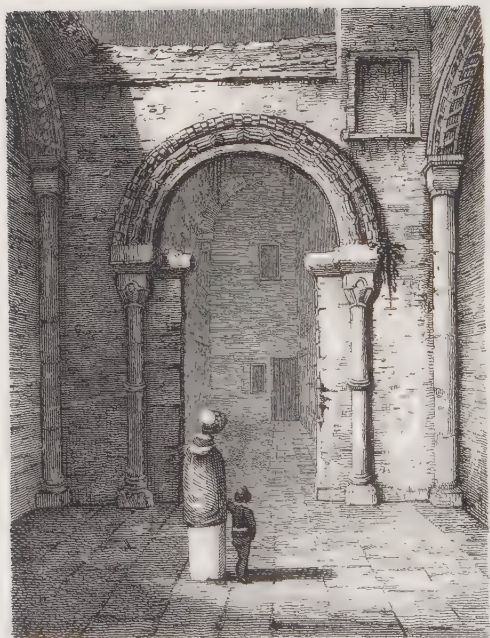
portant repairs have been found necessary, than those which may be remembered by some persons now living. The timber roof was repaired, and the east end, which was near two feet out of the perpendicular, was skilfully and effectually restored by force of screws, under the direction of Mr. Essex the architect, about forty years ago.

Every part of the fabric bears undeniable marks of originality, except the two windows of the second tier, on each side, nearest the organ. Behind these, the roof of the side aisles rises no higher than the first tier of arches, whereas in the other four it covers the second. When this alteration took place, or what gave occasion to it, does not appear; but it was certainly not of the original design. The roof was of equal height throughout. These windows have been fitted up with tracery exactly resembling that of the correspondent arches in the ante-choir. The frames do not appear to have been altered.

The arches of the second tier are separated by a cluster of slender shafts, into two smaller with trefoil heads, and between the two a quatrefoil; all highly adorned with curious and beautiful mouldings.

The upper windows are of three lancet-shaped lights under one arch of the same span with those below, and adorned in the same taste.

The east end is eminently beautiful, and will not, by any means, shrink from comparison with the more gorgeous termination of any church built after great end windows came into fashion. There are two tiers of lights; the lower con-



View of the interior of the Church of St. Martin, Paris, from the nave looking towards the choir.

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sists of three, very high lancet-shaped, and all equal; the second of five, the middle one being higher, and those on the sides gradually lower. These, intermixed with numerous slender pilasters, and set off by a profusion of leafy mouldings, of great beauty and variety, may be fairly allowed to exhibit as much magnificence, and more gracefulness and elegance, than the splendid glare of one huge window filling almost the whole end.

These windows have certainly been adorned with painted glass, but that was of course demolished in the general wreck. Bishop Mawson had agreed with an artist to fill them with modern stained glass. The middle light of the five was to have contained a whole-length figure of St. Etheldreda, and below it the royal arms; the next light on the right-hand side, a whole length of St. Peter, and below it the arms of the bishop, impaled with those of the see; that on the left-hand, a whole-length of St. Paul, and below it the arms of the then dean, Dr. Thomas; and the two side lights the arms of the prebendaries, four and four, according to their precedence in the choir. The middle light below was to have contained a picture of the Nativity, with angels descending in a stream of light; the two side lights figures of the four Evangelists. Each compartment was to have had appropriate decorations.

This agreement was made not long before bishop Mawson's death: he had advanced a considerable sum of money, and sufficiently provided, by his will, for the rest. The artist was unable to fulfil his contract. The figure of St. Peter,

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and some of the arms, were finished, and are put up. The heads only of St. Paul and St. Etheldreda were completed, which are in two windows in a room at the deanery. The arms, as they now appear, are those of bishop Mawson above, and below them those of the prebendaries at that time, in the following order :

2. Nicols	1. Heaton
4. Gooch	3. Greene
6. Doyly	5. Hervey
8. Price.	7. Warren

The painting under the window, representing the release of St. Peter from prison by an angel, was given by the present bishop in 1801, and put up, with its appurtenances, at his expense. It is the work of Joseppé de Ribeira, who was called the Spanish Titian, and flourished about the middle of the seventeenth century.

The stalls in the new choir were originally made by Alen de Walsingham. When it was fitted up, after the erection of the octagon, they were removed to their present situation : some of them were found to be decayed, and have been so well restored, that it is nearly impossible to discover what parts are new.

At the east end of the north aisle is a sumptuous chapel, erected by bishop Alcock, who died at his castle at Wisbech in the year 1500 : his tomb, with his effigy lying thereon, but much defaced, is placed under an arch of stone on the



Fig. 1. The entrance to the tomb of the Kings of Judah, as it appeared in 1817.

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north side. In the south aisle, and in some respects corresponding with the former, but much superior in its embellishments, is another chapel. This was erected by bishop West about the year 1530, and is highly enriched with delicate Gothic ornaments, and elegant carving. In this fabric the bones of Walston, archbishop of York, Brithnoth, duke of Northumberland, and the bishops Alwin, Elfgar, Athelstan, and Ednoth, are deposited in small cells, similar to those in which they were immured in the walls of the old choir. Both these chapels were greatly dilapidated by the enthusiastic reformers who sprung up during the civil wars, and seem to have had an invincible antipathy, to every religious edifice that displayed taste and elegance.

It is observable that there is no bishop's throne here, as there is in other cathedral churches. It is to be accounted for thus:—In every cathedral there was either a prior and monks, or a dean and secular canons; for the most part founded by the first bishop; but the bishop had no place among either community. His seat in the choir was elevated, and sometimes magnificently adorned: situated near the high altar, or between it and the east end of the stalls. Ely is the only instance of the conversion of an abbey into a see. When this change took place, the bishop came into the abbot's place in the choir on the right-hand side of the entrance; leaving the prior, then become head of the monastery, in possession of the seat on the left-hand, which he had before occupied, when he was only second, and which is filled by his successor, the dean.

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The presbytery was formerly occupied by the sepulchral memorials of bishops, priors, deans, and other eminent persons. All these have been removed, except two; that of bishop Gray, which is a flat stone (a part only of a noble monument) under the arch by which we pass into the north aisle; and that of Cardinal de Luxemburgh, archbishop of Rouen, and perpetual administrator of the diocese of Ely, which is on the south side of the altar, concealed by the screen. It is said to have been found impossible to remove it, without danger of its falling to pieces, being made of a sort of clunch. It had been already miserably mauled by the Puritans.

In the aisles are the remains of several ancient monuments, which appear to have been of good workmanship, but are much damaged, and all the fine interstices of the carving filled up by a thick coat of glaring whitewash. This injudicious and ungraceful mode of modernising these venerable performances of our forefathers, ought to be reprobated by every one on whose mind the principles of taste and propriety have any influence. Among the monuments are those of the bishops Northwold, Kilkenny, De Luda, Hotham, Barnet, Grey, Redman, Standley, and many modern bishops; and also a curious tomb to the memory of the famous John Tiptoft, earl of Worcester, and his two wives, of the time of Richard the Third. The font is of very elegantly-worked marble, adorned with several small statues: it was given to the church by dean Spencer.

The extreme extent of the cathedral, from east to west, is



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535 feet; but the interior length is only 517. The length of the transept is 190 feet, the height of the lantern over the dome 170. The extreme height of the western tower 270, the two towers on the south wing of the latter 120. The length of the nave is 203 feet, and the height of the roof over it 104. The height of the eastern front to the top of the cross is 112 feet.

Near the east end of the cathedral, on the north side, is St. Mary's Chapel, now Trinity Church; it having been assigned to the use of the inhabitants of that parish soon after the Restoration, by the dean and chapter. This elegant structure was commenced in the reign of Edward the Second, and is one of the most perfect buildings of that age. The shape is an oblong square; the interior length being 200 feet, the breadth 46, and the height of the vaulted roof 60. This building has neither pillars nor side aisles, but is supported by strong spiring buttresses, surmounted with pinnacles. The spaces over the east and west windows were formerly decorated with statues, and a variety of other sculpture, well executed. The interior was likewise embellished with niches highly carved, and enriched with statues, ornamental foliage, and flower-work; but the elegance of the sculpture could not preserve it from the rage of the fanatical soldiers of the commonwealth; and what escaped their hands has been so miserably clogged and obscured by white-wash, that all the finer parts of the carving are obliterated. This edifice was built at the charge of the convent by John de Wisbech, one of the monks, and Alan de Walsingham, who erected the

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octagon. The first stone was laid by the latter on lady-day, 1321. This chapel is now undergoing a complete repair.

The only part of the cloister now remaining entire is the north-east angle, through which is the south entry into the church, by a magnificent Norman door arch of various and elaborate sculpture. This was the common door-of entrance for the monks.

The prior's entrance was at the north-west corner, and is more magnificent still: it is in the dean's garden, and so is all the rest of the cloister. The outer wall of the north side, and part of the east, is yet standing, but the roof is fallen in.

Of the west side, it can scarcely be said whether any part remains. The wall which now runs in that direction, does not seem to agree with the measurement of the other parts. Indeed, that side might have been broader than the others. It was the prior's way from his lodge to the church.

On the south side are some capitals of columns of the thirteenth century, like those of the galilee and the presbytery. This side, therefore, was older than the others, for they have windows of a much later age, in which it should seem that they were rebuilt.

A little south of the cloister stood the chapter-house; of this very little indeed now remains, but enough to show that it was of the Norman age.

The Bishop's Palace is a neat brick structure. It was



Remains of the Consolidated Buildings as a Station, N.Y.

Proprietary Dec 28 86 by W. Clarke New Bond Street.

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built by the bishops Alcock and Gooderich; but was much improved by the late bishop Keene, partly at his own expense, and partly with the large dilapidations recovered from the executors of his predecessor, bishop Mawson, to whose philanthropy and public spirit the inhabitants of Ely are indebted for many advantages. When his lordship was promoted to this see in 1754, the city and its neighbourhood were greatly on the decline, from the adjoining low lands having been under water for several years, and the wretched situation of the public roads, which were in so bad a state, that they could not be travelled with safety. "Under these circumstances," observes Mr. Bentham, "it was obvious that the only effectual means of restoring the county to a flourishing state would be to embank the river, to erect mills for draining the land, and to open a free and safe communication throughout the large and almost-impassable levels with which the city of Ely was environed; all of them works of great difficulty, and formidable in point of expense."

The patronage and support of bishop Mawson gave efficacy to the schemes that were proposed to remedy these inconveniences; and, by the aid of several acts of Parliament, the necessary improvements were made, and both the commerce and health of the inhabitants considerably benefited. Among other alterations, the road from Ely to Cambridge was made turnpike, at the expense, in some places, of 300*l.* a mile. The public gaol was also repaired and strengthened at the charge of the bishop, who likewise contributed a con-

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siderable sum towards the cost of removing the choir into the presbytery.

The principal charitable benefaction for the use of the poor, is vested in feoffees, and arises from estates in the neighbourhood, bequeathed by — Parsons, about the year 1425. Here is also a grammar school appendant to the cathedral, in which provision is made by the statutes for the education of twenty-four boys, commonly called king's scholars; and a charity school for twenty-four boys, who are educated and clothed by the income of an estate bequeathed by Mrs. Needham about seventy years since.

The police of Ely is regulated by the magistrates, who are appointed by the bishop, and are justices of peace within the isle. These meet for the dispatch of business every market-day, which was altered about fifteen years ago from Saturday to Thursday. This city is the only one in England not represented in Parliament. Many of the houses are of stone, and some of them have a very ancient appearance. The streets are irregular, and, with the exception of the principal one, neither paved nor lighted. The population, as ascertained under the injunctions of the late act, amounts to 1765 males, and 1948 females. The number of houses is about 700. The chief employment of the inhabitants is gardening, which is carried on in this neighbourhood to a great extent. Cambridge, St. Ives, and even London, receive considerable supplies of vegetables from hence. Great quantities of strawberries are also reared here, and some other fruits; but these are chiefly conveyed in barges



Part of the Old Cathedral City.

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to Lynn, and carried thence by the vessels employed in the coal trade to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and other places in the north of England.

With the celebrated natives of Ely, may be named the reverend James Bentham, who was born in 1708; and having been taught the early rudiments of education in this city, was entered a student of Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took the degree of Master of Arts in the year 1738. Being a man of very liberal talents, he devoted much attention to projects of general utility, such as enclosing waste lands, repairing roads, and draining fens. In 1771 he published his valuable work on the History and Antiquities of Ely; and in 1779 exchanged the rectory of Northwold for a prebendal stall in the Cathedral, whose antiquity and beauty he had illustrated with great judgment and ability. This publication obtained him so much credit, conjointly with his known skill in ancient architecture, that when the dean and chapter resolved on a general repair of the cathedral, he was appointed clerk of the works; a situation which he held till the completion of his designs, a few years before his death. He died at the advanced age of eighty-six.

Tattersall Hall, about one mile from Ely, derived its name from the late Mr. Tattersall, of sporting memory, and is now possessed by his son, who holds the estate under a lease of lives from the bishop of Ely. The house is small; but, from its well-chosen situation, commands a good prospect of the cathedral. It is surrounded by a paddock, and some rising plantations judiciously disposed. On the estate

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is a farm-house, which obtained the title of Highflyer Hall, from the celebrated horse of that name having been kept there.





This view was by Ed. B. Norton from a Drawing by J. C. Powell for the Antiq. Soc. of Ely.

St. Mary's Church, Ely.

The Photograph was taken by Mr. J. C. Powell in 1864.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

IN the divisions of the lands and revenues, in 1109, at the foundation of the bishopric of Ely, this church was assigned to the convent, and is now in the dean and chapter. It contains some rather curious architectural remains, particularly the north and south door arches; they being pointed and decorated with different sorts of Norman mouldings; but the columns have slender detached shafts united under one capital, wreathed with foliage, as in the early English style.

It is known that this church was rebuilt by bishop Eustachius, the founder of the galilee of the cathedral; and, in the chronological table kept at Ely, its completion is placed in 1215. Although the doors are undoubted parts of this erection, yet they are not considered the most ancient specimens that are still to be seen: some parts of the nave, particularly the columns, are supposed to be parts of the old church, which the bishop worked into his new one.

Ely St. Mary, was one of the oldest possessions of the convent, and there was undoubtedly a church on the very site the bishop chose for his re-erection; therefore it is not exceeding the bounds of probability in supposing that he would use as much of the old building as could be made to suit his purpose.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH.

The chancel of this church is considered a beautiful specimen of the early English style, having the lancet-headed windows; and the chapel on the south side of the church is not far removed from it either in beauty or antiquity.





Engraved by subscription from a Drawing by J. Smith. See the Description on p. 100.

Haverley, Cambridgeshire.

Published for the Proprietors by J. Smith, No. 10, St. Paul's Church-yard, London.



THORNEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THORNEY is a small market-town, on the north-west side of the county, bordering on Northamptonshire. Its situation is extremely pleasant, the eminence on which it stands being surrounded by low and fertile grounds in a very complete state of drainage, the expence of which is defrayed by an annual tax of about a shilling an acre. Its present name was derived from the thorns and bushes that grew in its vicinity; but its ancient appellation was Ankeridge, which it obtained from the anchorites, who dwelt in the cells of an abbey founded here by Sexulphus, the first abbot of Peterborough, in the time of St. Etheldreda. This house being destroyed by the Danes, was refounded by Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, in the year 972, for Benedictine monks, and

THORNEY.

became the burial-place of many devout Saxons, whose reputation for sanctity procured them the title of saints; but none of their monuments are remaining.

In the year 1085 the ancient church was taken down, and a new one commenced by the abbot Gunter, but was not completed till 1128, in which year it was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Botolph, by Hervæus, bishop of Ely. This structure possessed considerable magnificence, and was at least, says Brown Willis, "five times as large as at present, and had, no doubt, a great cross aisle, with a tower in the middle, and a choir beyond it." When this abbey was dissolved by Henry the Eighth, great part of the church was destroyed; but the remainder escaped destruction by being made parochial. The aisles were removed in the year 1636; and the nave, which is sixty-six feet in length, and twenty-eight in breadth, was repaired, and fitted up for divine service. The west front, which is the entrance to the church, is the most perfect part of the ancient building. The recess for the door-way, and the arch of the west window, are pointed; and above the latter is a row of nine statues of saints, placed in Gothic arches, and occupying the space between two octagonal towers, which rise from each side the front, nearly to the height of twenty feet. The revenues of the abbey were valued at nearly 500l. Its possessions were granted, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, to John, duke of Bedford, whose descendant, the present duke, is not only owner of this town, but likewise of 19,000 acres of the surrounding lands. This extensive property is divided into farms, held at will, from 25 to 400l. per annum, and, generally speaking, is in a very improved state of cultivation.



Remains of Thorne, 11th & 12th centuries.

Published for the Proprietors Messrs. G. & W. Charles New Bond Street.

THORNEY.

The market and annual fairs of Thorney were granted to Francis, earl of Bedford, on the 10th of March, in the 13th of Charles the First, by the charter of incorporation for the government of the Bedford Level. Some remains of the abbey cloisters are supposed to constitute a portion of the school-house. The inhabitants are chiefly the descendants of French Protestants. The whole number in the parish is about 1300. Several urns and coins of the Emperor Trajan have been dug up near the abbey, which had the privilege of sending to Parliament.

William of Malmsbury, who lived till the first year of Henry the Second, has painted Thorney and its vicinity in glowing colours: he represents it “as a very paradise, for that in pleasure and delight it resembles heaven itself, the very marshes abounding in trees, whose length, without knots, do emulate the stars. The plain there is as level as the sea, which, with the flourishing of the grass, allureth the eye; and so smooth, that there is nothing to hinder him that runs through it; neither is there any waste place in it; for in some parts thereof, there are apple-trees, in others, vines, which either spread upon the grounds, or run along the poles.”

In another place, he styles it, “the school of divine philosophy, the residence of virtue, the abode of chastity.” His paradise, however, was not a paradise of *Houris*; for he expressly remarks, “here a woman would be deemed a prodigy.” This state of things exists no longer but in the florid pages of the historian: the daughters of Eve have been admitted into Eden, and its chastity, its virtue, and its philo-

THORNEY.

sophy, are intermingled with the common frailties of the human race.

The great Level, as it is styled, in which Thorney is situated, has been always remarkable for its fertility ; and now that the drainage of this vast tract is complete, it is almost impossible to speak correctly of its amazing richness.



RAINE CHURCH,

ESSEX.

RAYNE lies west of Braintree, in the road to Dunmow.—The name is otherwise written in records, Raines and Reynes. It is called Little Rayne, in contradistinction to Great Rayne, now Braintree; both which are comprehended in Domesday book under the name of Raines. It was separated from Great Rayne about the time of king Henry the Second.—Gudmin and Aluin, in Edward the Confessor's reign, had the two chief lordships in this parish, Rayne Hall and Old Hall; but at the time of the general survey they were holden by Hugh de Montfort and his under-tenant, Alcher, and by Roger de Raines, or as corruptly written, de Ramis.

The church is an ancient building, supposed to have been founded soon after the separation of the parishes, and was very famous, in the catholic times, for an altar and chapel, erected in the south aisle, to the honour of the Virgin Mary. This altar was much frequented by pregnant women, who sought by their supplications to the Virgin to obtain a safe delivery, and, according to tradition, with such great success, that the advice to "go ere long and say your prayers at Raine," became a common proverb.

Rayne Hall was the part which was holden by Hugh de Montfort. This Hugh was the younger son of Jurstin de



Engraved by St. John's from a Drawing by Lloyd, for the Antiq. Socy. in 1845.

Wappingham Church, Isle of Wight.

Printed for the Proprietors, July 1846, by W. L. & Co. in New Bond Street.

WHIPPINGHAM CHURCH,

ISLE OF WIGHT, HAMPSHIRE.

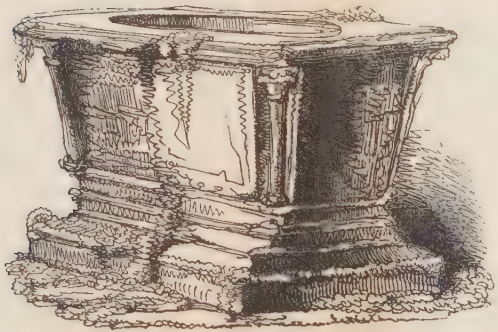
WHIPPINGHAM CHURCH is a structure of more extent than the generality of those in the Isle of Wight. It appears to have been erected about the time of Henry the Sixth, and is of the plainest style of Gothic architecture, clean and comfortable in appearance, and well attended as a place of worship, the village containing upwards of twelve hundred inhabitants.

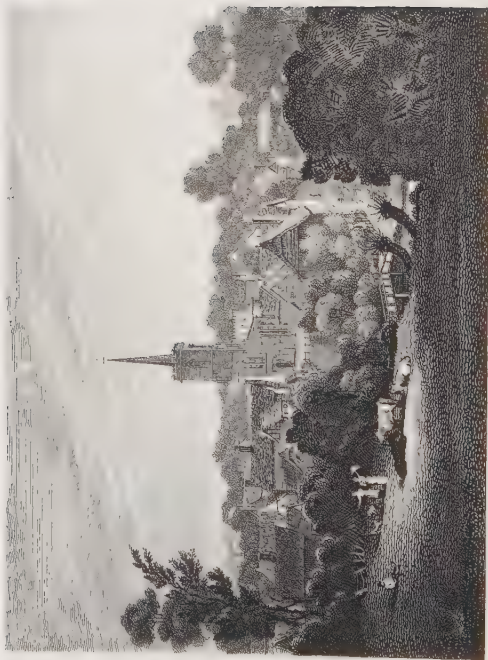
The parsonage is inhabited at present by a most worthy and intelligent gentleman, and situated in a most delightful spot: it commands most extensive views, and one peculiarly picturesque, having the winding river Medina, with hanging woods on its banks, through an extensive and highly-diversified scene, up to and backed by the town of Newport.

Padmore, the residence and park of Charles Joliffe, esq. near to Whippingham, is well deserving the attention of all visitors to this part of the island; as is likewise Quarr Abbey, about four miles from hence; but few vestiges of this once-celebrated foundation remain: some cellars and the refectory, now converted into a barn, are nearly the whole: the wall, which surrounded the monastery when standing, nearly a mile in circumference, is still, by some of its foundations remaining, to be traced. The monastery, which be-

WHIPPINGHAM CHURCH.

longed to the Cistercian order, was founded by Baldwin, earl of Devonshire, in the reign of Henry the First, and probably received its name from the adjacent stone quarries. On its dissolution the materials of the building were sold to a person, who carried away a great part of them, and sacrilegiously disturbed the dust of many persons of distinction who lay buried here. The situation of this abbey is agreeably secluded and sheltered by woods, except towards the sea.





Braunschweig, Herzogthum.

Vertheilt für die 12 Theile des Atlas von W. H. Kuhn, 1840.

BRAUGHING,

HERTS.

BRAUGHING, called Brachinges in the Domesday-Book, was an ancient demesne of the Saxon kings, and was given by William the Conqueror to Eustace, earl of Bulloign, who joined the great confederacy of English and Norman nobles and prelates against William Rufus, at the commencement of his reign, in favour of his elder brother, Robert of Normandy.

The origin of this conspiracy appears to have been the jealousy Odo, the king's uncle, bishop of Bayeux, took at the favour with which the king treated Lanfranc, the archbishop. This feeling, joined to a desire of ruling again as he had done in the Conqueror's reign, set him to work how to depose the king, and set the crown on the head of Robert. He wanted not pretence to countenance his enterprize Robert's birth furnishing him with a very plausible one. He drew together into the plot, Eustace, earl of Bulloign, and some other of the principal Norman lords, as well as many of the discontented English nobles, who had their hopes that the commotions about to be raised would turn to their advantage, they having been deprived for the most part of their estates.

As soon as Eustace and the other Normans were certified

BRAUGHING.

that Robert would back their exertions, they began to stir; Eustace seized Rochester, in Kent; the bishop of Constance, and Mowbray, his nephew, made themselves masters of Bath and Berkley Castle, and fortified Bristol, in order to use it as their chief magazine; Roger Bigod, in Norfolk, Hugh Grantmenil, in Leicestershire, seized upon several places; Roger de Montgomery, William, Bishop of Durham, Bernard of Newark, Roger Lacy, and Ralph Mortimer, secured Worcestershire. In a word, there was not a lord among the conspirators but what fortified himself in some city or castle. Had Robert come over at this time, according to his promise, in all likelihood an end would soon have been put to the reign of his brother William: but his natural slothfulness made him lose this opportunity. William, on the contrary, was active, and Lanfranc, the archbishop, well repaid the favours he had received. The king attacked his uncle, Odo, in Pevensey Castle, in Sussex, which he took in a few days, and then marched to Rochester, which was strenuously defended against him by Eustace. Odo, who had been taken prisoner at Pevensey, was used by the king to induce Eustace to give up the place, but without effect, until a contagious distemper, which had broken out in the garrison, and daily swept off great numbers of his men, induced him to capitulate. This conspiracy cost Odo his life, and the earl of Bulloign his estates; among the rest, the manor and lordship of Braughing.

This lordship afterwards remained in the crown till the time of king Stephen, who granted lands here, of the yearly value of 100*s.* to the Church of the Holy Trinity, in London, in perpetual alms. This grant was confirmed by the Em-



THOMAS ARGALL SEPTIMI STEWARD OF LANKEATH SVEDO ARMIGER
MPTISSIMO SVA CONIUGA ANNA DEIA THOMAE ARGALL ARMIGER
PER QVAM HABVIT FILIVM & FILIAM TANTVMQVO VIVENTIVM
TEMPORE MORTIS SVAE ANNO DOMINI 1597

BRAUGHING.

press Maud, who bestowed the remainder of the manor on the same foundation ; and it continued attached to it till the period of the dissolution, when Henry the Eighth granted it to the lord chancellor Audley ; but it has since passed through a variety of families.

The weekly market, which had been granted to the Canons of the Holy Trinity by Stephen, has been long disused.

The church at Braughing is a handsome building, consisting of a nave, chancel, and aisles ; with a chapel, now divided into a school-room and vestry, on the north side of the chancel. This chapel was erected by Simeon Brograve, esq. son and heir of Sir John Brograve, knt. of Hamells, as a family burial-place ; and round it, on the inside, is this inscription: *Hæc Capella fuit extructa propriis sumptibus SIMEONIS BROGRAVE, Arm. Domini Manerii de HAMELLS in locum Sepulturæ pro mortuis dictæ Domus et per Dominum dicti Manerii sustinenda perpetuoque reparanda. Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.* In this chapel many of the Brograves lie buried. Various memorials for other families appear in different parts of the church. Among the rest, the monument of Augustus Stewarde, which we have engraved : the inscription on it is as follows.—

AVGVSTINO FILIO SIMIONIS STEWARDE DE LAKENGHEATH

SVFFO^{LK} ARMIGERI

MESTISSIMA SVA CONIVX ANNA FILIA THOMÆ ARGALL

AIMIGERI PERVIT

PER QVAM HABVIT FILIVM & FILIAM TANTVMMODO

VIVENTEM

TEMPORE MORTIS SVÆ ANNO DOMINI 1597

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Salmon supposes Braughing to have been the *Cæsaromagus* of the Itinerary, but on very insufficient grounds, and he has not been supported by other authorities. His strongest argument is deduced from an ancient encampment, traces of which may be distinguished to the south of the village, on a rising ground above the confluence of the Rib and the Quin. Not any discoveries, however, have been made here to justify his supposition of its ever having been occupied by the Romans.





Engraved by W. H. Sturt, from a drawing by J. H. Sturt.

The Old Church of St. Andrew, L. S.

Published by the Proprietors, 10, New Bond Street.

AYOT ST. LAWRENCE,

HERTFORDSHIRE.

AYOT ST. LAWRENCE was anciently the demesne of the Saxon kings, and in the time of Edward the Confessor, was held by earl Harold; but after the Conquest it was granted to Robert de Gernon. It afterwards belonged to a family surnamed de Ayot, who held it under the earls of Hereford and the abbots of St. Alban. Chauncey states, but erroneously, that this manor was granted to Radhere, the founder of St. Bartholomew's Priory, in Smithfield, to whom it never belonged: this appears to have arisen from the circumstance of Canons in Shenley, which anciently formed part of the possessions of St. Bartholomew's, having been granted out along with this manor, by Henry the Eighth, to Nicholas Bristowe, and others. The family of Bristowe continued in possession of Ayot till the beginning of the eighteenth century, when it was purchased by Thomas Lewis, esq. after whose death it was sold to Cornelius Lyde, esq. The latter left two daughters, co-heiresses, one of whom married her cousin-german, sir Lionel Lyde, an eminent tobacco-merchant, who was

AYOT ST. LAWRENCE.

created a baronet in the year 1772. He purchased the other share of this manor from his wife's sister; and dying without issue, in 1793, the whole estate devolved to his brother, Samuel Lyde, esq. whose family are the present possessors.

The mansion of the Lydes is a neat brick building, situated in a small though pleasant park.

Ayot St. Lawrence contains two churches; one of which was erected by the late sir Lionel Lyde; the other is an ancient and venerable ruin: the plans on which they were built are singularly dissimilar.

The new church was erected after the ancient Grecian model, by the celebrated Nicholas Revet. The west front consists of a colonnade, connected with a kind of open pavilion at each extremity, having a dome above; and of a portico, forming the principal entrance, in the centre, with this inscription on the pediment:

Hanc Æadem D. O. M. LIONEL LYDE, Baronetus,
Manerii Dom. et Ecclesiæ patron. extruxit
A. C. MDCC. LXXVIII.

In the centre of each pavilion is a pedestal of white marble; that to the south is inscribed to the memory of sir Lionel Lyde, who died in June, 1793, in his sixty-eighth year, and it has also the following inscription on the back, in commemoration of the architect.



The sarcophagus is a copy of the original
 in the Vatican Museum. It is a fine specimen of
 the art of the ancients. The figure is a copy of the
 original in the Vatican Museum. It is a fine specimen of
 the art of the ancients.

The figure is a copy of the original in the Vatican Museum. It is a fine specimen of the art of the ancients.

AYOT ST. LAWRENCE.

NICOLAUS REVETT *Suffolciensis*
Qui plurimos annos
Romæ Athenis et Smyrnæ commoratus
HANC ECCLESIAM
Ed antiquæ Architecturæ Exemplaria
Quæ in Græciæ atque Asia Minori
adhuc visuntur
designavit extruxit, decoravit.
HOC MONUMENTUM *posuit*
Sumptibus LIONELLI LYDE, Baronetti.
A. D. MDCC. LXXXVIII.

The ground-plan of the old church is equally uncommon. It assumes the form of an oblong square, nearly a double cube, separated into two parts by pointed arches; and the eastern part again divided into two chancels, communicating by an open arch.

At the north-west angle of the western part is the tower, which occupies about one-eighth of the whole fabric, and opens to the nave by pointed arches. The capitals of the pillars supporting the arch which divides the nave from the north chancel, are curiously ornamented with foliage and birds; and the mouldings were elaborately wrought, the outermost being terminated with sculptures of human figures. Against the north wall of this chancel was an ancient altar-tomb, neatly ornamented at the sides, by ranges of handsome pointed arches in relief, with trefoil

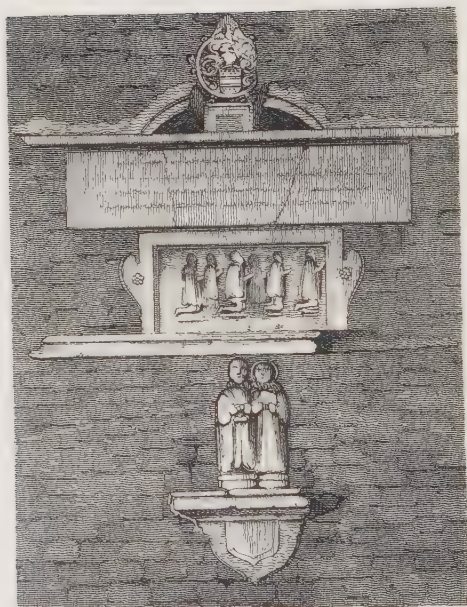
AYOT ST. LAWRENCE.

heads, and having on the top, incumbent effigies of sir John Barre and his lady. These figures are most shamefully mutilated: the former is represented in armour, with a close helmet, having an oval aperture for the face; his feet are resting on a lion, and his head on a helmet and mantle. This tomb has been removed to the tower.

Some feet above sir John Barre's tomb, fixed into the west wall of the tower, are the remains of the tomb of Nicholas Bristowe, esq. and his wife, which formerly was placed against the south wall of the north chancel, but removed at the time when the church had greatly gone to ruin. The remains consist of the kneeling effigies of sir Nicholas and his lady on cushions: immediately above them, in another compartment, are six more kneeling figures, supposed to be their children; and over them is a plate of brass, with an inscription: this is surmounted by the family arms.

In the north wall of the south chancel, which was that appropriated for the celebration of divine service, was a very curious free-stone miniature figure of a Knight Templar, or Crusader, lying in a recess, probably coeval with the building, under an obtuse pointed arch, quite plain. This figure scarcely exceeds twenty-four inches in length; a peculiarity, perhaps, that cannot be paralleled in more than two or three instances: the hands, which are now broken off, formerly held a heart.

In the wall that separates the chancels, on the south side, is an ancient stone coffin; this was considered as a seat, till the falling of a beam broke off an upper cor-



...
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AYOT ST. LAWRENCE.

ner of the lid, and discovered a skull lying in a cavity purposely formed to receive it. On opening the coffin, in August, 1801, all the remaining bones of a skeleton were found arranged nearly in their proper order. The lid is sculptured with an ornamented cross, and shaped similarly to that of the coffin of king William Rufus, at Winchester, with a ridge in the middle, and sloping towards the edges. Several curious corbel heads support the outer mouldings of the arches in different parts. The east window of the north chancel was elegantly ornamented in the pointed style, having three trefoil-headed lights, separated by mullions; and in the space above them, two Catherine wheels, with various crockets: beneath the inner mouldings, on each side, was a canopied niche of rich workmanship. In this window was some fine painted glass, with the arms of the Bristowes, formerly lords of the manor; and above, the royal arms of England, within a bordure, charged with the cognizances of the houses of York and Lancaster: these arms are now preserved in the window of a house near the church. The font is of an octagonal form, ornamented with various mouldings, and having three trefoil-headed blank arches on the upper parts of each of its different faces.

The new church was erected at the expense of sir Lionel Lyde, under the expectation that he should be permitted to add the site of the ancient one to his park; but when the roof of the latter had been destroyed, and all the timbers carried away, and the building otherwise greatly dilapidated, an injunction was issued by the bishop, to prevent its being further spoiled, on the principle, that ground, once consecrated,

AYOT ST. LAWRENCE.

ought not to be converted to secular purposes, without evident necessity.





Engraved by Henry from a Drawing by W. L. Stoddard, for the Antiquarian Society.

Remains of the Tomb of A. Piers Shonks, Parents of William Church, Esq.

Published for the Proprietors, Sept. 2nd 1846, by W. L. Stoddard, New Bond Street.

O PIERS SHONKES's TOMB,

BRENT PELHAM CHURCH.

THE Church at Brent Pelham is a small structure, consisting only of a single pace, with a tower at the west end; the chancel is of brick-work. In the north wall of the nave is the curious monument of O Piers Shonkes, who is said to have been owner of a subordinate manor in this parish very soon after the Conquest; and the site of his mansion is still pointed out, surrounded by a moat. The lower part of the tomb is of modern brick-work; but the top is covered with an ancient slab of Petworth marble, sculptured in very high relief, with the figure of an angel, surrounded by the symbols of the Evangelists, and sustaining a festoon of drapery, out of which rises a small human figure, with his hands raised in the attitude of prayer: below this, in the centre of the slab, is a cross fluery, with a kind of branched stem, the lower end of which is entering the mouth of a dragon or serpent. This symbolical representation of the triumph of Christianity was most probably the origin of a traditional tale concerning the person buried here, and which represents him as having so offended the devil, by killing a serpent, that his highness threatened to secure him, whether buried within or without the walls of a church; to avoid which, he was deposited in the wall itself. Over the tomb is the following inscription.

O PIERS SHONKES'S TOMB.

O PIERS SHONKES

Who died Anno 1086.

*Tantum Fama manet Cadmi, Sanctiq. Georgi
Posthuma Tempus Edax Ossa Sepulchra voreat
Hoc Tamen in Muro tutus, qui perdidit Anguem
Invito positus Dæmone Shonkus erat.*

Nothing of Cadmus, nor St. George, those names
Of great renown, survives them but their fames ;
Time was so sharp set as to make no bones
Of theirs, nor of their monumental stones ;
But SHONKE one serpent kills, t'other defies,
And in this wall, as in a fortress, lies.

Whatever might have given rise to the tradition, it would seem that O'Shonkes was a character much venerated, as the buttresses on the outside of the church, which bound the place of his sepulture, are marked with crosses.





Engraved by J. G. Thompson on a Philadelphia Engraving of the House of the late Mr. J. G. Thompson.

Leprosy, Albany, N.Y.

Published for the Proprietors by W. C. Clark, New York, 1840.

LESNESS ABBEY.

KENT.

It appears that “ Richard de Lucy, chief justice of England” in the year 1178, founded and endowed an abbey of canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, at Westwood, in his village of Lesness, and next year quitting his honors and great preferments, he took upon him the habit of a canon in this house, then scarce finished ; and, dying on July 14, 1179, was buried under a sumptuous monument in the choir of his church here.”

This monastery, with its church, was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr. Godfrey de Lucy, a near relation of the founder, who had been consecrated bishop of Winchester in the year 1189. was a great benefactor to it.

In an ancient valuation of the temporalities of religious houses, taken in the time of Edward the First, those of the abbey of Lesness, with the passage of the water and the marsh lands, with the revenue of Dartford, Lodeham, and Greenwich, were valued at 22*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* In the twenty-first year of the same reign, the abbot and John Peche, who held the manor of Lesness in dower, as the inheritance of John, earl of Athol, each claimed to have wreck of the sea in the Thames within the manor of Lesness, the former alledging that he found his abbey seized of the same at his coming to it. But it was given against him, it being found by inquisition that the

LESNESS ABBEY.

ancestors of the above-named earl had enjoyed the wreck as aforesaid, within the manor, beyond memory.

This abbey was one of those whose funds were sequestrated to found two colleges by cardinal Woolsey, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, one at Oxford, and the other at Ipswich ; its spiritualities were then valued at 75*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* and its temporalities at 111*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* per annum.

There are but small remains of this abbey now to be seen ; the estate is the property of St. Bartholemew's Hospital, at London.





KINGSGATE, ISLE OF THANET, KENT.

KINGSGATE, the villa of the late Henry lord Holland, stands in the dimple of a hill fronting the sea, and arrests the attention of every spectator. It was built, under the direction of lord Newborough, and was intended to represent Cicero's villa on the coast of Baia.

On the front of the house, toward the sea, is a noble Doric portico : the wings are faced with curiously wrought flints ; and the back part consists of several buildings, ingeniously connected with each other. The seat, though low in the antique style of villas, contains some good apartments which were once fitted up in the most costly and curious taste ; but most of the ornaments, which were purchased in Italy at a great expense, were removed, on its being offered for sale.

At the upper end of a long walk in the garden is a handsome column of Kilkenny marble, called Countess Pillar ; erected to the memory of lady Hillsborough, who died at

KINGSGATE.

Naples, in 1767, with an appropriate inscription. Around this villa are a number of singular fantastic buildings, rapidly hastening to decay; intended to represent Gothic ruins, of almost any description. One of the most considerable is the convent containing the remains of a chapel and five cells; which afford an asylum to some poor families, and therefore may be contemplated with a more refined pleasure than if the building were a mere eye-trap. Before it is a cloister, and at the east end a gateway and a porter's lodge.

Nearer the cliff is a rude Gothic building, erected on the larger of the two tumuli, called Hackendown Banks; which, according to tradition, mark the spot where a bloody battle was fought, in 853, between the Danes and the English, under the Earls Alcher and Hunda; in which the latter were defeated, after prodigies of valour had been performed on both sides. Both these barrows have been opened; and were found to contain graves cut out of the solid chalk, of an oblong oval form, not more than three feet long, and covered with flat stone. In one of them were discovered three urns of coarse black ill-burnt earth, which crumbled to pieces on being exposed to the air.

On a tablet is a Latin inscription, which runs thus:

“To the memory of the Danes and Saxons, who were fighting for the possession of Britain (soldiers think every thing their own!), the Britons having before been perfidiously and cruelly expelled: this was erected by Henry lord Holland.”

No history records who were the commanders in this action, or what was the event of it. It happened about the year 800; and that it was fought on this spot is probable, from



Engraved by E. M. L. Street, after a drawing by J. H. P. de la Haye.

Obelisk in the Park, New York.

Published for the Proprietor by R. M. S. New York and Street.

KINGSGATE.

the many bodies which were buried in this and the adjacent barrow.

In the vicinity of these banks is an opening through the cliff to the level of the sea-shore, formerly called Bartholomew's gate, (which we have represented); but when Charles the Second landed here with the duke of York, in his passage from London to Dover, the inhabitants gave it the name of Kingsgate, and recorded the incident by the subsequent Latin distich affixed in brass letters on the gate :

Olim porta fui Patroni Bartholomæi,
Nunc regis jussu Regia Porta vocor.
Hic exscenserunt Car. II. R.
Et la. dux Ebor. 30 Junii 1683,

In Saxon Characters on the side next the sea is inscribed :

“ God bless Barth'lem's gate.”

The bead-house next attracts the attention of visitors. It is built in the shape of a Roman chapel, with Gothic windows. It is now called the “Noble Captain Digby,” and is converted into a house of accommodation for parties of pleasure.

At a short distance is the temple of Neptune, with an appropriate inscription. *Arx Ruochim*, a small castle built in imitation of those erected by Henry the Eighth, for the protection of the coast, Harley Tower, Whitfield Tower, (which is engraved), erected on the highest spot of the island, Countess Fort, and the Castle, originally intended for a mews, all deserve the notice of the curious spectator.

KINGSGATE.

Between Kingsgate and Broadstairs is the North Foreland, supposed to be the Cantium of Ptolemy, the most eastern point of England. On its top is a light-house, furnished with patent lamps of large magnifying lenses, twenty inches in diameter. These lamps are lighted at sun-set, and kept burning till break of day.





Engraved by J. W. P. from a drawing by J. W. P. from a drawing by J. W. P.

Chapman Hall, N.Y.

COBHAM HALL, AND THE COLLEGE AT COBHAM,

KENT.

HAVING, in the ninth number of the Antiquarian Itinerary, given a view of Cobham Hall, and likewise the entrance to the college, and accompanied them with descriptions relating to their present state, it will be necessary to revert to the history of the ancient and noble family of the Cobhams; who, from the beginning of the reign of king John to that of James the First, during a space of nearly four centuries, held this noble estate, with several others.

Henry de Cobham, who was one of the justices of the great assize, in the first of king John, obtained a grant of the manors of Cobham and Shorne from William, a Norman soldier, surnamed Quatre-mere, or knight of the Four Seas, for certain services which he had rendered to Henry the Second. He left three sons; John, who succeeded him; Regineld, or Reinold, who was a justice itinerant, and lord warden of the Cinque Ports, in the time of Henry the Third; and William, who was also a justice itinerant in the same reign. The former was twice married, and had three sons: John; Henry, Le Uncle, as he was afterwards called, the possessor of Roundall, in Shorne; and Reginald, ancestor to the Cobhams of Star-borough Castle, in Surrey. John,

COBHAM HALL, AND COLLEGE AT COBHAM.

the eldest, was constable of Rochester Castle, and became very eminent for his knowledge of the laws: he was several times justice itinerant, in the reigns of Henry the Third and Edward the First; and passed through various subordinate situations with great honour, till he at length was constituted a baron of the Exchequer, in 1284. On his death, in 1300, he was succeeded by his eldest son, Henry de Cobham, who, with three others of his family, was knighted in Scotland, for the eminent services they had rendered the king at the siege of Carlaverock. He was the first lieutenant (so called) of Dover Castle, and warden of the Cinque Ports. In the seventeenth of Edward the Third, he obtained license of free warren in his lordship of Cobham, and all other manors belonging to him in Kent; and, in the twenty-fifth, had summons to parliament: he afterwards served in the wars in France, and was made a knight banneret. John de Cobham, his son and successor, the third and last baron Cobham of his family, commonly called the Founder, from his having founded and endowed a college and chantry at Cobham, served also in the wars in France, both in the reign of Edward the Third and Richard the Second, by the latter of whom he was made a knight banneret. In the tenth of Richard, he was one of the fourteen lords constituted governors of the realm, and empowered to inquire into the misconduct of the preceding administration; through which, on the sovereign regaining his ascendancy, he was impeached of treason, and condemned to death: but his sentence was converted into banishment to the isle of Jersey, by special favour of the king. He was recalled on the accession of Henry the Fourth, and died in the ninth of the same reign, leaving by Joan, his



View of the River from the Bridge.

COBHAM HALL, AND COLLEGE AT COBHAM.

daughter, who died before him, and her husband, sir John de la Poole, *knt.* a grand-daughter and heiress, also named Joan. This lady was married in succession, to sir Robert Hermendale, *knt.* sir Reginald Braybrooke, *knt.* sir Nicholas Hawberk, *knt.* (all of whom died during the life of her grandfather), sir John Oldcastle, *knt.* the unfortunate victim of a jest on archbishop Arundel, (who assumed the title of lord Cobham in right of his wife, and was *burnt alive*, for his adherence to the opinions of the Lollards, of whose sect he was considered as the chief,) and sir John Harpenden, *knt.* She had issue by all her husbands but the last; yet all her children died young, with the exception of Joan; her youngest child by sir Reginald Braybrooke, who became her heiress, and married sir Thomas Brooke, *knt.* of Brooke, near Ilchester, in Somersetshire. He assumed the title of lord Cobham in right of his lady, but was never summoned to parliament; yet his son and successor, Edward, the friend of Richard, duke of York, the ill-fated rival of Henry the Sixth, had that honour, he being advanced to the barony of Cobham, in 1446. John, his son and successor, and second baron Cobham of this family, assisted at the coronation of Henry the Seventh; and united with Grey, earl of Kent, against the Cornish insurgents at the battle of Blackheath. Thomas, his son and heir, was succeeded by his eldest son, George, who was made a knight of the garter by Henry the Eighth, and lord deputy of Calais, which post he retained till the reign of queen Mary, by whom he was for a short time imprisoned in the Tower, on suspicion of his being concerned in the rebellion of sir Thomas Wyatt, though he had opposed the entrance of the latter into Cowing Castle. William,

COBHAM HALL, AND COLLEGE AT COBHAM.

his eldest son and successor, entertained queen Elizabeth at Cobham Hall during her progress through Kent, soon after she had ascended the throne. The queen with whom he became a great favourite, also appointed him lord chamberlain ; and he was likewise made lord warden of the Cinque Ports, governor of Dover Castle, &c. He died in March, 1596, having by his will directed the building and endowment of a new college on the site of that which had been founded by his ancestor John, lord Cobham. Henry, his eldest son, succeeded to his titles, inheritance, and places. This was the man whose weak understanding, and abject soul, proved the ruin of sir Walter Raleigh ; with whom the lord Grey, of Wilton, and others, he had engaged in a conspiracy against the Cecils. Cobham was afterwards committed to the Tower during pleasure ; and all his possessions being seized by the king, was reduced to such extreme necessity, that he “ had starved,” says Weldon, “ had not a trencher-scraper, sometime his servant at court, relieved him with scraps !” He died in January, 1619, without issue.





St. B. Smith. Castle, Copenhagen.

Engraved by J. H. Smith. From a drawing by J. H. Smith.

BOTHWELL CASTLE,

LANARKSHIRE.

THE castle of Bothwell is a very ancient and noble structure. In its decayed state it exhibits some striking remains of its former splendour, and is, perhaps, the most magnificent ruin in Scotland. The work is all done with polished stone of a red colour; the apartments very lofty. What of it remains occupies a space in length two hundred and thirty-four feet, and in breadth ninety-nine feet over the walls. The lodgings are confined to the east and west ends, and many of them sufficiently distinguished. The chapel is marked with a number of small windows, and like a chamber of state off it, with two large windows to the south. The old well in the corner of one of the towers, penetrating through the rock, to a good spring, was discovered a few years since. The stair of one of the highest towers is almost entire to the top, which presents an immense height above the river. The court in the middle was probably designed to contain their cattle and provisions in case of an assault, an arrangement peculiar to many ancient castles. The entry is on the north, about the middle of the wall. Vestiges of the fosse are yet visible. It appears to have been built and enlarged at different times, and by the several proprietors who occupied it.

BOTHWELL CASTLE.

The following is a concise statement of the various lords or masters it had received in the vicissitudes of fortune :

“ It was anciently possessed by the Murrays : but in the time of king Edward the First, it was given to Aymer de Valance, earl of Pembroke, governor for him of the south part of Scotland. Upon his forfeiture, it was given by king Robert Bruce to Andrew Murray, lord Bothwell, who married Christian, sister to that king. With his grand-daughter it came to Archibald the Grim, earl of Douglas, by marriage, and continued in their family till their forfeiture by king James the Second, 1455. After the forfeiture of the family of Douglas, the bulk of the lordship of Bothwell was given to lord Chrichton, son to chancellor Chrichton ; and Bothwell forest, or Bothwell moor, was given to lord Hamilton, in exchange of the lands of Kingswell.

“ Chrichton was forfeited in 1485, for joining with Alexander, duke of Albany, against king James the Third. It was then given by king James the Third to the lord Monipenny, from whom it was soon retaken, as having been given by the king in his minority : and was thereafter given by him to John Ramsay his favourite, who enjoyed it till the year 1488, when he was forfeited for counterfeiting a commission under the great seal to the earl of Northumberland ; then the lordship of Crichton was gifted by king James the Fourth, to Adam Hepburn lord Hailles, whom he created earl of Bothwell. It continued in his line till November, 1567, when James, earl of Bothwell, was forfeited for the murder of Henry, father to king James the Sixth. Thereafter it was given by that king to Francis Stewart, son of John Abbot



THE
GARDEN OF THE
GODS

BOTHWELL CASTLE.

of Kelso, who was natural son to king James the Fifth ; and he being forfeited for crimes committed against James the Sixth, his estate was gifted to the lairds of Buccleugh and Roxbourgh, from whom the marquis of Hamilton acquired all the superiority and patronage of that lordship.

“ The property, which was less than the third of the lordship, with the castle of Bothwell, having been disposed by Hepburn, earl of Bothwell, to the earl of Angus, in exchange of the lordship of Liddisdale.

“ The said William, earl of Angus, and Archibald his son, in 1630, or thereby, did feu the third part of the lordship, to the particular tenants and possessors thereof, without diminution of the old rent, and reserving the castle and mains of Bothwell. It was given off as a patrimonial portion with the earl of Forfar, but is again returned to the family of Douglas by the death of Archibald, earl of Forfar, who died at Stirling of his wounds received at Sherrismuir, in the year 1715.”

The above account is confirmed by this circumstance, that the different parts of the edifice retained each the name of the builder ; such as *Valance* tower, *Douglas* tower, *Hamilton* tower, and the *Cuming* tower ; and some are still known by them. The Douglas family had exceedingly enlarged and improved it ; their arms were found in different places of the wall. It is impossible to form a just idea of its former greatness, as it is said that a great deal of it was taken down by the earl of Forfar, out of which he built a modern house.

There is this peculiar to that superb structure, that all the neighbouring objects are in a great style. The Clyde

BOTHWELL CASTLE.

makes a fine circle round the castle; the breadth of the river is considerable; the streams spread over a plain rocky bottom; the banks, on both sides, are very high, and adorned with natural wood. The craig of Blantyre, with the ruins of the old house of the priors upon the top of it, immediately opposite, has a striking effect; while this noble monument of ancient grandeur extends along the summit of the north bank, with a bold aspect to the south, at both ends rears its lofty towers, and dignifies the whole scene.





Stuthaven (not. Lemarkshire).

STRATHAVEN CASTLE,

LANARKSHIRE.

THE Castle of Strathaven is beautifully situated on the banks of the river Avon, in the county of Lanark.

There is no certain tradition as to the year in which it was built. It is generally supposed to have been by Andrew, first lord Avendale, who was created in 1456. It stands upon a rocky eminence, and was surrounded by a strong wall, turretted, and the entrance secured by a draw-bridge.

The barony and lordship of Avendale were exchanged by Andrew, the third lord, with sir James Hamilton, of Fynnart, for the barony of Ochiltree, in Ayrshire. They afterwards came into the duke of Hamilton's family, whose property they still remain.

Strathaven Castle, and the Castle of Arran, were alternately the residence of Ann, duchess of Hamilton, during the interregnum. She died of extreme old age in the year 1716, and since her death this castle has been suffered to fall to decay.

The names of some places adjoining, such as Kirkwood and Hawkwood, seem to indicate that this district was once adorned with wood, of which there are no longer any vestiges but what are common all over this part of the country; large

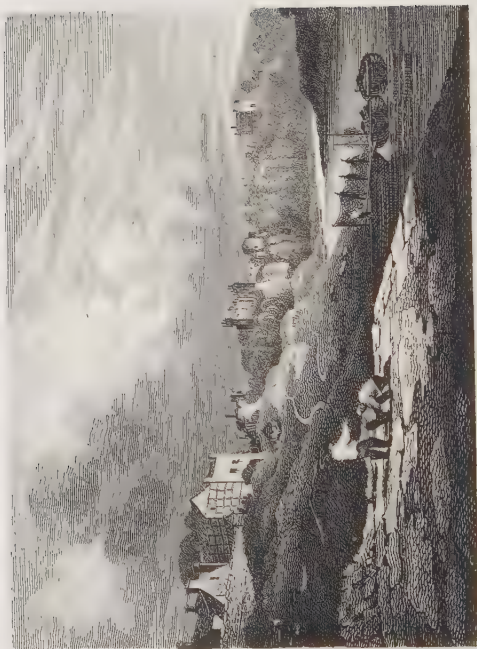
STRATHAVEN CASTLE.

trunks of oak and birch are frequently found at some depth in the morasses,

A Roman road, or causeway, can be traced for several miles on the south side of the Avon, in this parish, and adjoining to it.

The town of Strathaven was created into a burgh of barony, in the year 1450, with the usual privileges, and had an extensive commonalty, all of which has long ago become private property. It has a weekly market and a number of annual fairs, but having no public funds, has no other magistracy than a baron-bailie, appointed by the duke of Hamilton.





Engraved by T. Verelst, from a Sketch by R. D. P. 1840.

Chipping Castle, Monmouthshire.

Published for the Proprietors, by J. D. P. 1840.

CHEPSTOW CASTLE,

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

CHEPSTOW is situated about three miles from the passage over the Severn, at Aust Ferry, five from the New Passage or Black Rock, fifteen from Monmouth, sixteen from Bristol, twenty-eight from Gloucester, and one hundred and thirty-four from London, near the mouth of the river Wye, over which it has a good bridge of stone and wood, and is now a populous and thriving town.

The princely ruin of Chepstow Castle, stretching along a grand perpendicular cliff, proudly rises above the stream of the Wye. The grand entrance to the Castle is a Norman arch, flanked by circular towers. Around the court, to which you enter from the gateway, are the remains of the baronial hall, numerous apartments, a kitchen, and an enormous round tower, which was the ancient citadel. Some of the rooms are kept in repair, and are now used for a dwelling. The second court is now laid out as a kitchen garden: the third court contained the chapel, a fine remnant of antiquity, possessing a greater degree of decoration than any other part of the castle. A range of niches appear within the walls of this structure at some distance from the floor, which it is reported was once occupied by statues: the mortices of beams seem to indicate that a gallery was con-

CHEPSTOW CASTLE.

structed round the room. The style of the windows and ornaments is Gothic. There was a fourth court, separated from the principal mass of buildings by a draw-bridge.

The castle is, by tradition, said to have been erected about the time that Julius Cæsar invaded Britain; but better authority gives its erection to the eleventh century, when William Fitzosborn, earl of Hereford, built it to defend the ample possessions granted him in this quarter by William the Conqueror.

This fortress is remarkable in history for the gallant defence which it made with a slender garrison against a considerable force, headed by Oliver Cromwell. After a long siege it was taken, and nearly all its defenders were sacrificed.





Engraved by J. G. Thompson from a drawing by the Rev. J. G. Thompson. The building is now a ruin.

Remains of a Convent

At the foot of the hill, near the entrance to the Convent.



MONMOUTH, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE county of Monmouth, formerly called by the Britains Gwent, from an ancient city of that name, lies southward of Brecknock and Herefordshire. On the north, divided from Herefordshire by the river (styled by Camden, Mynwy) Munnow; on the east, from Gloucestershire by the river Wye: on the west, from Glamorganshire by the river Rumney; and on the south, bounded by the Severn, into which those rivers, as also the Usk, that runs through the county, are discharged. Monmouth, the principal town in the county, is situated on a tongue of land, formed by a confluence of the rivers Munnow and Wye, surrounded by lofty hills, whose woody declivities, happily interspersed with fields of the choicest verdure, adds much to the picturesque beauties of its neighbourhood. This place is recorded in history at an early

MONMOUTH.

period, and considered, by ancient writers, as Roman; and points out Monmouth as a fortified town; it is mentioned as a fortress as early as the Saxon era, for on the north side, where it was not guarded by the rivers, it was fortified with a wall and ditch.

Within a short distance of the centre of the town stands the dilapidated remains of its castle, famous for being the place where our Henry the Fifth, the renowned conqueror of France, first drew breath. It appears to have flourished in the time of William the Conqueror, and is supposed to have been since rebuilt by John de Monmouth, who became possessed of the lordship in the reign of Henry the Third. John assumed from the place the surname of Monmoth, or Monmouth. During the long intestine commotions Monmouth was alternately possessed by the opposite parties: and in several sieges it endured, suffered repeated demolitions. The cause of the barons was warmly espoused by the Welch: and the earl of Leicester had recruited his army, in this part of the country previous to the disastrous battle near Evesham, in Worcestershire, which proved equally disastrous to him and the baronial cause. Under these circumstances, the castle of Monmouth, among others, became of the utmost importance for the support of royalty.

Monmouth Castle was a favourite residence of John of Gaunt, and of his son Henry of Bolingbroke, afterwards Henry the Fourth, in whose reign it was distinguished by giving birth to the hero of Agincourt: then, as part of the duchy of Lancaster, descended to Henry the Sixth, it became the possession of the earl of Pembroke, granted by Edward



Fig. 1. The Palace of the Duke of Devonshire, in the County of Devon.

Fig. 2. The Palace of the Duke of Devonshire, in the County of Devon.

Fig. 3. The Palace of the Duke of Devonshire, in the County of Devon.

MONMOUTH.

the Fourth. Upon the attainder of Henry the Sixth, reverting again to the crown, it became, as before, part of the duchy of Lancaster, and afterwards was the property of Henry the first duke of Beaufort, which, with other possessions, descended to the present representative of that noble family.

Its remains shew its ancient grandeur and extensive magnificence. Of the chamber, where the hero of Monmouth was born, the supports still project from the wall that upheld the floor; by which it appears to have been fifty-eight feet long, by twenty-four broad: it had pointed arched windows, one of which remain: some vaults under the house, inhabited by Mr. James Bowen, are of the oldest character. Within the site of the castle is a handsome stone edifice, built of fragments collected from the surrounding ruins.

Of the priory, founded in the reign of Henry the First, for Black monks of the Benedictine Order, there are no great remains; a few vestiges are still left—a small apartment, having a very ancient projecting window, said to be the study of the celebrated Geoffry of Monmouth, who is supposed to have been a native of this town, as no other place has preferred a claim to his birth: he received his education, and was afterwards a monk, in the Benedictine convent of this place: he flourished in the time of Henry the Second; was first appointed archdeacon of Monmouth, and then made bishop of St. Asaph in 1152, which see he afterwards resigned, and became abbot of the monastery at Abingdon, where he died. The chamber of Geoffry, with the remaining parts of the priory, which were much decayed, have

MONMOUTH.

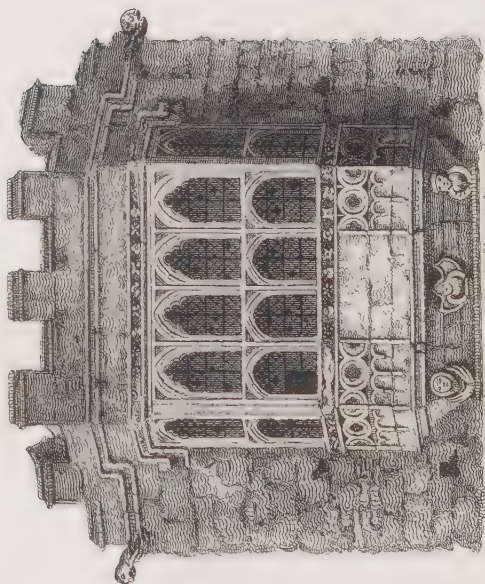
undergone a repair, in which the National School for the education of the children of the poor, is conducted.

St. Mary's Church belonged to the priory, but the tower and the lower part of the spire are the only remains: the body of the church does not appear to have been built so high as the former one, by the mark on the east end of the tower; the spire forms a most striking and beautiful object in most of the prospects surrounding Monmouth.

St. Thomas's Church is a small but ancient structure, and from its almost-ruinous state, has come nearly into disuse: the zig-zag and nail-head mouldings of the interior arch, between the nave and chancel, form a curious specimen of ancient architecture. There is here a Free School, founded in the reign of king James the First, by William Jones, a native of Newland, in gratitude (as far as tradition goes) for the more favourable reception he met with in Monmouth than Newland. The school is founded upon the most liberal establishment: in the centre of the school-room is an ancient portrait of the founder, habited in the costume of that day: adjoining he built alms-houses for twenty poor people, leaving to each 3*s.* 6*d.* a week: since the value of lands being much increased, (a considerable sum being vested in lands), they now receive 6*s.* a week.

The market-place at Monmouth is open and spacious, and has a respectable town hall, forming in front a noble colonnade.

There are three bridges; Munnow bridge, Wye bridge, and Gibbs bridge. That over the Wye is a tolerable stone structure, and has several arches, to which of late there



Printed by J. H. Stiles at the Sign of the Anchor, No. 10, N. York St., N. York.

A Window of the Priory, & Monmouth.

Published for the Proprietors, by W. H. Stiles, New York, 1840.

MONMOUTH.

have been additions made. This part of the town has been much improved by the erection of an extensive quay. The entrance here is by far the best, and from which the town assumes a pretty appearance. Munnow bridge is built of stone, and appears from the tower which forms the gateway to be of very ancient date. Jibbs bridge is erected of wood on stone piers, and now nearly in a ruinous state.

Within a short distance of Monmouth is the Kymin Hill and Pavilion, (as appears in the back ground of the view of the castle), from the summits of which there is a panoramic view, the most sublime and beautiful possible for the human mind to conceive. It would be a gratifying idea, in the evening of life, to the venerable founder, S. M. Handwick, esq. whose exertions were the means of rendering it so eminently delightful, to see that same spirit manifest itself in keeping it in that state that first marked its onset.

An account of the pavilion, its views and walks, from the pen of Mr. Charles Heath, has been published, in which a stranger, on visiting these pleasurable regions, would find an agreeable companion.

Near to Monmouth stands Troy House, a seat belonging to his grace the duke of Beaufort, seated on the banks of the Trothy, said to be built by Inigo Jones. Of the old mansion, the only remains left is a pointed-arched gateway, of which there is nothing worthy of notice. The apartments of the present edifice are numerous and commodiously arranged, and contain many portraits of the Beaufort family, with other pictures, amongst which are some brought from Rhaglan or Ragland Castle, in this county, a short time previous

MONMOUTH.

to its demolition: it has of late undergone repair, and forms a striking object from the different hills by which it is surrounded.





THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LONDON.
The Church of St. Mary, London, is a fine example of the
Gothic style, and is one of the most beautiful
buildings in the city.

THE BISHOP'S PALACE,

NORWICH, NORFOLK.

THE episcopal palace is situated on the north side of the collegiate precinct, occupying the site of the one erected by Herbert Losinga, the founder of the cathedral. The original building was taken down, and one of enlarged dimensions built by bishop Salmon, in the year 1318. The works of this prelate were on a very extensive scale, as not only the present palace, but the (now almost demolished) great hall, extending one hundred and ten feet long and sixty feet wide; also the old chapel and charnel chapel, with its offices, were of his foundation; these, through length of time, and negligence, had fallen into great decay, when bishop Tottington expended large sums in substantially repairing them. Afterwards, the palace was much adorned by bishop Hart, previous to the king's coming there in 1449; and bishops Goldwell and Parkhurst successively contributed to its ornament: their arms, with those of several other prelates, are emblazoned in the different windows.

In 1535, bishop Nix, with the consent of the prior and chapter, granted a lease for eighty-nine years to the corporation, that, for the honour of God and St. George, they might hold the gild and feast of St. George in the palace, and use the buttery, pantry, and kitchen, at its north end

BISHOP'S PALACE.

for fourteen days, during the gild time, unless the king, queen, or other nobles, were at the palace with the bishop at that time.

One of the rooms is ornamented with wainscot, (brought from the ruined abbey of St. Bennet, in the Holm, by bishop Rugg, who, previous to his elevation to this see, was abbot of that place), on which is handsomely carved the arms of that abbey, those of the Veres, Ingloses, and particularly those of sir John Fastolf, their great benefactor: there are also busts of many heroes and remarkable persons, both men and women.

In the rebellion, this palace suffered in common with other ecclesiastical edifices, from the fanatic ignorance of the times; the greater part was occupied as different tenements, and the great hall converted into a meeting-house; for it appears, that at the court of mayoralty, held June 13, 1656, by information on oath, that, "at a publique meeting in the place which formerly was the bishop's hall, one Will Wayneford, a comber, did there, in his prayer, which he openly made, use these following words—*that the Lord would be pleased to throw down all earthly power, and rule, and authority; and that he would consume them, that they might be no more alive on the earth; and that he would set up the kingdom of his son, that they might be all taught of God.*"

The palace had become so dilapidated, that at the restoration, bishop Reynolds, with difficulty and great expense, rendered it habitable; since which time, bishops Trimmel and Gooch have expended considerable sums in repairs and improvements; at present it exhibits a very neat appearance.



View of the Archway, New Bond Street

Published for the Proprietors New Bond Street

BISHOP'S PALACE.

Only a small portion of the great hall, erected by bishop Salmon, remains, which forms a picturesque object in the garden, and is preserved in its present state with great care : it was ornamented with a spire, and the room over it was formerly the repository for the bishop's evidences.

Originally, Jesus chapel in the cathedral was appropriated to the use of the prelate ; but being inconvenient, bishop Salmon agreed with the prior and chapter for a piece of ground, lying between the church and the palace, for the annual sum of four pounds, whereon he built a chapel, one hundred and thirty feet long by thirty broad, and dedicated it to the honour of the Virgin Mary ; it contained many plain monuments, under which some of the bishops were supposed to have been buried, and the founder was interred in the midst, opposite the high altar.

In this chapel a chantry was founded by Will. de Ayreminne, bishop in 1331, for three priests, who were daily to pray for the souls of the founder and his family ; likewise for the king and his progenitors, with the welfare of the present bishop of the see, and the souls of all his predecessors. The priests were provided for by the founder, who appropriated the advowson of Thurlton to St. Giles's hospital for that purpose, and, from the profits of this rectory, annual stipends of six marks were to be paid to each officiating chaplain, all of whom were to be in the bishop's collation, to dwell in the palace, and be maintained at his expense : King Edward the Third not only confirmed the foundation, but granted that during the vacancy of the prelacy, they should not be molested by any one, but should remain in the palace, and be provided for as usual. In 1368, when the

BISHOP'S PALACE.

rectory of Thurlton diminished in value, the number of chaplains was reduced to two, but their stipend was augmented to seven marks (3s. 4d.) per annum, the master of St. Giles's hospital giving security, that when the rectory advanced to its old value of twenty pounds per annum, that the original number should be restored. In 1448, bishop Hart, disliking to provide for those chaplains, who, being once collated, he was obliged to maintain, and preferring such as he could discharge at pleasure, thus rendering them wholly dependant on himself, relieved the master and brethren of the hospital from finding the annual stipend, and so the chantry ceased: but a priest continued to sing in the hospital church for the soul of the founder.

In 1619, the Walloon congregation were licensed to use this chapel during the pleasure of the bishop.

The pension of four pounds per annum, agreed by bishop Salmon, to be paid to the dean and chapter, was continued until the time of bishop Goldwell, who subtracted it during his prelacy; but his executors were forced to pay it, by the arbitration of bishop Nix, in 1508; and it was regularly paid to Michaelmas 1642, when bishop Hall remonstrated with the dean and chapter, saying, that the chapel belonged to them, and they might take it in their own hands, as he would no longer pay for it; and from this time the pension ceased.

This chapel suffered severely during the rebellion; the conduct of the furious despoilers is stated by bishop Hall, in his treatise, called "Hard measure." He informs us, that "Sheriff Tofts and alderman Lindsey, attended by many zealous followers, came into my chapel to look for supersti-



BISHOP'S PALACE.

tious pictures and reliques of idolatry, and sent for me, to let me know, they found those windows full of images, which were very offensive, and must be demolished; I told them, they were the pictures of some ancient and worthy bishops, as St. Ambrose, St. Austin, &c. : it was answered me, that they were so many popes; and one younger man among the rest would take upon him to defend, that every diocesan bishop was a pope: I answered him with some scorn, and obtained leave, that I might, with the least loss and defacing of the windows, give orders for taking off that offence, which I did by causing the heads of the pictures to be removed, since I knew the bodies could not offend."

The exertions, however, of the prelate were unavailing, for soon afterwards the work of destruction again commenced, the windows were entirely broken, the lead taken from the roof and sold, and the whole building so destroyed, that bishop Reynolds, at the restoration, when he repaired the palace, rebuilt the present chapel, a little to the northward of the original building, and herein he and his successor, bishop Sparrow, are interred, commemorated by mural monuments.

The chapel joins the east end of the palace, and stands on the south side of the remains of the ancient hall, as will be seen by a reference to the annexed view: it is now disused for the purposes of divine worship.

The bishop's gate forms the principal entrance to the north side of the palace, and stands on the plain, opposite St. Martin's church. This gate was erected by William Alnwyk, who was appointed bishop of Norwich, by the provisory bull of Pope Martin the Fifth, dated Feb. 27, 1426. The structure is square, supported by buttresses at the cor-

BISHOP'S PALACE.

ners, and the outside ones were surmounted by figures on pedestals, but only one remains; the front is divided by a moulding, and in the upper compartment is a canopied niche, with a figure in a sitting posture: beneath the moulding is a display of ornamental tracery, surrounding, alternately, shields and the letter **M**. The interior is vaulted over.

It appears that bishop Alnwick did not complete his designs, for the wooden gates remaining there were evidently put up by Walter Hart, from the mitres and numerous hearts cut thereon, although that bishop, to preserve Alnwyk's benefaction, caused his arms only to be affixed there.





My dear Mr. B. I have just received your letter of the 10th inst. and am glad to hear that you are well.

For the Proprietors, Dec. 28th 1856, by W. Clark New Bond Street

WARKWORTH HERMITAGE,

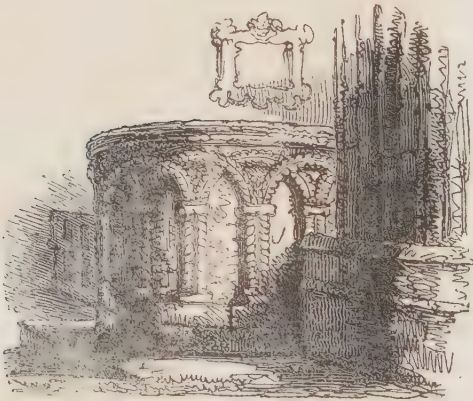
NORTHUMBERLAND.

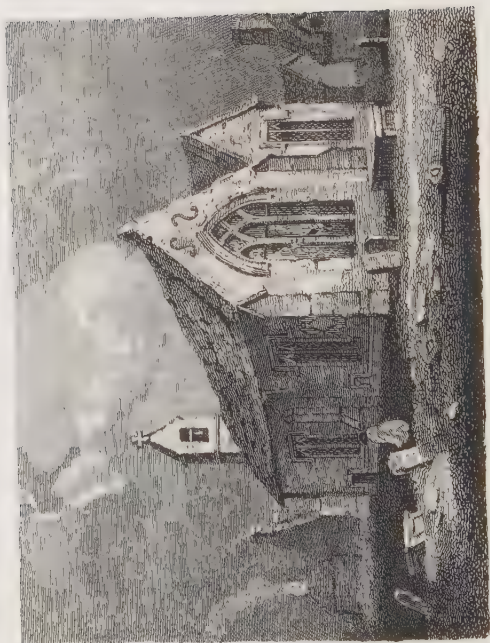
DR. PERCY, in his beautiful ballad of the Hermit of Warkworth, has described with the happiest effect the scenery and local peculiarities of this retired and romantic spot; as well as related a most affecting tale, which history and tradition in a great degree connects with it. This hermitage is probably the best preserved and most entire relic of the kind now remaining in this country. The approach is kept in neat order, but still retains its original form. A narrow walk on the brink of the river leads to the door of the hermitage; the walk being confined to a very narrow space by a range of lofty perpendicular rocks on the other side. The steps, the vestibule, and the chief apartments, are hewn out of the bosom of a freestone rock about twenty feet high, embowered with stately trees, which impend from the top of the precipice and the fissures of the cliffs; one lower and outward apartment is of masonry. The excavations comprise three apartments, which have been not unaptly denominated the chapel, the sacristy, and the antichapel. Of these the chapel is very entire, but the two others have suffered by the falling in of a part of the rock.

The entrance to the apartment constructed of masonry is by a passage from the others, of three paces; the door-way

WARKWORTH HERMITAGE.

is marked with the remains of bolts and iron hinges. Passing from this building by the way in which it was entered, a flight of seventeen steps presents itself, which conducts to a little vestibule, with a seat on each side capable of holding one person only; above the inner door-way of which some letters appear, the remains of a phrase, which may be thus rendered into English—" *My tears have been my food day and night.*" In these seats or niches the hermit sat to contemplate, and the prospect from them was well calculated to inspire meditation.





St. Andrew's Church.

EYE,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

ON the plate accompanying this description, the county is by mistake put Suffolk, instead of Northamptonshire.

Eye is, in old records, written Eya, or the island lying north of Peterborough. It is a village of no very considerable extent, situated on a rising ground, and before the draining of the fen, in winter time, was entirely surrounded with water. Formerly the inhabitants supported themselves by fishing and fowling; but now there are no persons here who make a profession of such occupations.

Upon the erection of the see of Peterborough, after the dissolution of the convent, in the thirty-third year of Henry the Eighth, the manor of Eye and the demesne lands, with the tithes and tithe barn in Eye, were given to the bishop and his successors. Here the bishop's lessee tenant holds court-leet and court-baron.

The church is dedicated to Saint Matthew, and was built in 1543, out of the ruins of Northolm, or Northam Chapel. It is supplied by a curate at the appointment of the bishop; but, in the time of abbot William Waterville, there was the Chapel de Eea, which Reginald, a Capellan, vicar to the sacrist of Burgh, engaged to serve with the chapel of Thorp, paying all duties to the bishop, archdeacon, and dean, for

EYE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

which he was to have the diet of a knight in the abbot's hall, and the third part of all the profits which belonged to the altar, with other emoluments.





St. Stephen, St. Stephen

St. Stephen, St. Stephen

BURFORD,

O X F O R D S H I R E .

BURFORD is a large market town, distant 71 miles N. W. from London, 50 from Bath, 54 from Bristol, 41 from Worcester, and 29 from Gloucester, to each of which places it communicates by a good turnpike road.

Burford was formerly a chartered town. Henry the Second granted it all the customs of the townsmen of Oxford, and though it afterwards lost most of its privileges, it still retains some appearance of a corporation, having a common seal, and being governed by two bailiffs and burgesses, two constables, and four tithing men.

The church of Burford is a large handsome fabric, of Gothic architecture, with a most beautiful spire. The patron of the vicarage is the bishop of Oxford. John Lenthal, esq. descendant of the famous speaker to the long parliament, is the lord of the manor, and resides at the priory near the town, which was the scite of a religious house, belonging to the abbey of Keynsham, in Somersetshire.

Here is a free grammar-school, over which is the town-hall, wherein the assizes for the county of Oxford were held in the year 1636. Burford formerly sent one member to parliament.

At Battle-edge, near this town, Authred, king of the West

BURFORD, OXFORDSHIRE.

Saxons, beat Ethelbald, king of the Mercians, in a pitched battle, and threw off his yoke. There is still celebrated yearly, on Midsummer eve, a festival, which tradition honors as originating in the result of this conflict.

The races at Burford have long been famous. It is likewise noted for an excellent manufacture of saddles, and being situated in a fine corn country, it has a large market every Saturday for that needful article, and for cattle.







BERMONDSEY ABBEY, SURREY.

BUT very small remains of this once-extensive endowment are now to be seen. It is not many years since the last relic of any extent was removed ; that is, the gate-house, (which we have engraved), and some adjoining buildings.

It was a priory of Benedictine monks of the Cluniac order, and stocked at first from the priory of la Charité sur la Loire, to which it accordingly became subordinate as a cell. In the year 1371, the 45th of Edward the Third, it was sequestered among the alien priories to the use of the crown, but re-established by king Richard the Second, in the second year of his reign ; who also, two years afterwards, in consideration of two hundred marks, enfranchised it, thereby enabling it to purchase and possess lands in its own right, and

BERMONDSEY ABBEY.

to its own use and benefit; and, about eighteen years after, converted it into an abbey.

This house was surrendered to the crown on the 1st of January, in the 29th year of Henry the Eighth, by Robert Warton, the last abbot, who had been bishop of St. Asaph about a year and a half before, with which he was permitted to hold his abbey in commendam. As a further reward for his services in this particular, he was translated to Hereford, in April, 1554, of which he died bishop, 22nd of September, 1557.

The small zig-zag moulding on the wood-cut accompanying this description, was inserted into the wall not far from the ancient gateway, and was most probably a part of the ornaments of the church.





Weymouth, Weymouth, Weymouth.

MAYFIELD ABBEY,

SUSSEX.

MAYFIELD ABBEY, or PALACE, has formerly been a most magnificent structure ; the remains of it at present are very extensive, and in many respects grand.

In 1332, a provincial council was assembled here, and a constitution passed relating to holidays, their number, and the observance of them ; and, in 1362, another was held here on the same subject.

In 1259, archbishop Boniface obtained a charter from Henry the Third for a market and a fair, to be held at Mayfield. In 1389, a great fire happened here, which consumed the church and almost all the town.

The manor and mansion was granted, by archbishop Cranmer, in 1525, to Henry the Eighth, who gave it the same year to Edmund Worth, by whom it was shortly after alienated to sir Thomas Gresham, who had the honour of entertaining queen Elizabeth here in her Kentish progress, in 1573. A large room in the habitable part of the building still retains the name of "Queen Elizabeth's Room."

The mansion was bequeathed, by sir Thomas Gresham, to sir Henry Nevil, who sold it to Thomas Bray, of Burwash' esq. whose widow disposed of it to John Baker, esq. to the widow of one of whose descendants it lately belonged.

MAYFIELD ABBEY.

The principal remains consist of the ruins of the great hall, which are still magnificent; the gate-house and porters' lodge : these latter are pretty entire, and there are remains of a covered way from the palace to the church.



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